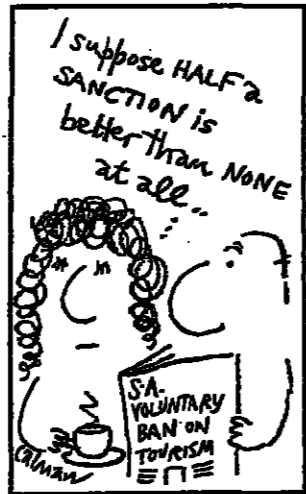


Summit heads pile pressure on Thatcher

Commonwealth leaders in London were fighting for further concessions from Mrs Thatcher on sanctions... The anti-apartheid United Democratic Front urged the leaders not to let themselves be dictated to (page 5)...

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Commonwealth leaders were battling to extract further concessions from Mrs Thatcher last night after she had agreed to go along with a European Community ban on the import of iron, steel and coal from South Africa and other limited measures...



Call to leaders World choices Sketch

The conference sat late into the night after a flurry of meetings during yesterday afternoon and evening in an effort to break the deadlock... The Prime Minister also accepted the eighth and final item on the Nassau list of possible measures...

Treasury insists it is right on TSB

By Richard Thomson Banking Correspondent

The controversy over the £1 billion flotation of the Trustee Savings Banks showed little sign of abating yesterday as the Treasury issued a terse statement that the flotation would go ahead despite Friday's ruling by the Law Lords...

After a Treasury meeting chaired by Mr Stewart yesterday, officials were saying privately that Lord Templeman had misunderstood the Trustee Savings Banks Act...

The Government vetoed the bank on July 21 before the full Lords judgment was published... The Treasury's statement said: 'Lord Templeman did not rule that the surplus assets of the Trustee Savings Bank were owned by the government...'



Botham back in style

Ian Botham yesterday scored a century off 65 balls in his first county championship innings since returning to first-class cricket after two months' suspension...

Promise of restraint by printers 111 'silent' Gurkhas dismissed

The two main print unions yesterday gave undertakings to the High Court that they would not assist, persuade or encourage members to carry out any acts of violence...

Hong Kong - The British Army has dismissed 111 Gurkhas, tough fighters from the mountains of Nepal, after a brawl in which two officers were injured...

He told Mr Justice Scott that the union denied responsibility for violent acts at the depots of the company which distributes The Times, The Sunday Times, The Sun and The News of the World...

Mr Terry Davis, a shadow Treasury minister, said yesterday that the Government had put itself into a dreadful mess...

UDR man shot dead in Belfast A full-time sergeant in the Ulster Defence Regiment was killed outside his home off the 'loyalist' Shankill Road in Belfast last night...

Mr George Shultz and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the US and Soviet Foreign Ministers, will meet in Washington on September 19 and 20 to prepare for a possible summit here between President Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachov...

Dates set for summit preparation

From Mobsin Ali Washington... The Queen Mother, a considerable expert with rod and line, may enjoy The Magic Wheel, an anthology of fishing literature...

Holiday reading matter booked for Balmoral

By Alan Hamilton... A biography of Karl Marx's wife, an omnibus of feminist literature, and a novel about postwar Japan are among books to be presented to Buckingham Palace today for the Royal Family's holiday reading at Balmoral...

Tory fears over Tebbit rift with Downing Street

By Peter Stothard

Mr Norman Tebbit, the Conservative Party chairman, yesterday described as 'barney' weekend newspaper reports that he was on the verge of resignation...

There is growing concern that relations between the two previously close allies, which have worsened through their policy disagreements on the BL sale and the US raids on Libya, have now come to a head...

The Prime Minister is expected to announce the appointment of a second deputy chairman of the Conservative Party, probably of minister of state rank...

Several members of the committee, which includes Lord Whitelaw, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Mr Nigel Lawson and Mr Douglas Hurd, as well as Mr Wakeham, Mr Tebbit and Mrs Thatcher, are now convinced that the party is failing to take advantage of the best available election-winning weapons...

The Y & R research is based on an assessment of voters' values and life-styles instead of the more common classification of the country into socio-economic groups...

This research identifies a core group for the Conservatives, known as the 'belongers', who constitute between 30 and 40 per cent of the electorate and need to be won over if the election is to be won...

A belonger's characteristics include being a patriot, a home-maker, a family man or woman with a sense of public spirit in traditional marketing...

Diplomats to visit two who face beheading

British diplomats are to visit engineer Peter Hall, and his Irish wife Monica, who face public beheading in Saudi Arabia for the murder of hospital matron Helen Feeney...

The couple were arrested on July 15 but the Saudis had refused permission to British diplomats in Riyadh to visit Hall, from Southampton, until the preliminary inquiries were made...

His mother, Doris, aged 59, said yesterday the Foreign Office had told her a visit was arranged for today.

Tomorrow Concrete curtain

Twenty-five years ago, the Berlin Wall was built overnight. Frank Johnson describes an international symbol of division...

Portfolio Gold

The Times Portfolio Gold daily competition prize of £4,000 was shared yesterday between Mr R.H. Sheppard of Gerrards Cross, Bucks., and Mr P. Phillips of Hove, Sussex...

Cyprus hunt

British and Cypriot security forces hunted guerrillas who launched attacks on Britain's base at Akrotiri Page 7

Accident cost

Ninety per cent of accident victims in England and Wales get little or no compensation for their injuries Page 3

Degree results

Degrees awarded by the University of Reading are published today Page 24

40% of expresses were late in 1985

Nearly half British Rail's express trains and a quarter of all commuter trains arrived late last year, the rail users' watchdog body said in its annual report yesterday...

Table with 2 columns: Complaints Received (1985/86 % rise) and Fares (1985/86 % rise). Rows include Service suitability, Punctuality, Service quality, Passenger info, Stations, Overcrowding, Staff conduct, Catering, Reservations, Others.

BR's reported intention to raise fares above the level of inflation next January was totally unjustified in terms of quality of service offered, General Napier added. Overcrowding had reached 'intolerable' proportions on some parts of BR, and additional resources should be made available to alleviate it.

Parcel bomb, page 2

UDR man shot dead in Belfast

A full-time sergeant in the Ulster Defence Regiment was killed outside his home off the 'loyalist' Shankill Road in Belfast last night...

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Advertisement for INTERCITY Finance. Text: 'But only INTERCITY offer you THE ALTERNATIVE OF YOUR FIRST PAYMENT FREE WITH NOTHING TO REPAY FOR UP TO 6 MONTHS ON OUR PLAN 7 OR A REDUCED INTEREST RATE FOR LARGER LOANS.' Includes a table of interest rates and contact information for London & Home Counties.

Table of contents for the newspaper. Rows include Home News, Overseas, Archæology, Apps, Arts, Births, Deaths, Marriages, Science, Business, Chess, Theatres, TV & Radio, Court, Crosswords, Weather, Diary, Events, Features, Law Report, Leaders, Letters, Obituary, Science, Sport, Theatres, TV & Radio, Weather, Wills.

Shah control of Today ends if bid for rival succeeds

By Michael McCarthy

Mr Eddie Shah yesterday confirmed that he is considering relinquishing control of his newspaper *Today*.

He said that if a bid he is making for a group of local newspapers in the North-west is successful he would reduce his 51 per cent controlling interest in the troubled daily.

Mr Shah said that he would probably dispose of his unwanted shares to Mr Tiny Rowland's Lorrho, which controls *The Observer* and has had a 36 per cent stake in *Today* since the rescue operation it mounted six weeks ago. "That would appear to be the logical course," Mr Shah said.

That would probably give Lorrho full control of *Today*, but Mr Shah said that in any event he expected to remain as chairman of his revolutionary but far-from-successful colour newspaper.

Mr Shah spelt out his intentions on the BBC radio's *Today*, denying a report in *The Sunday Times* that he was "going to quit". But he said that his current bid for the Warrington Guardian series of newspapers was successful he would need to reduce his shareholding in *Today* to avoid the deal being referred to the Monopolies Commission.

Last week Mr Shah, whose national paper needed a Lorrho cash injection of £13.5 million, bid £5.25 million in cash for the series of weekly papers and giveaways based in Greater Manchester and Cheshire which are the main local rivals of his own Warrington-based *Messenger Group*.

It is by no means certain that Mr Shah's bid will succeed. The Warrington Guardian series is owned by a

private company, Academy Court Holdings, which is controlled in trust form by members of the Greenall family of Warrington's Greenall Whitley brewery company.

Another bid has been made for the group by Reed International's Northern Counties Newspapers. Though pitched at a lower level, £4.5 million, it is thought the Reed bid is likely to be preferred by the directors as they fear the print unions may take industrial action, possibly against the brewery itself, if Mr Shah gains control of the Guardian series. The brewery is Warrington's largest employer.

In 1983 Mr Shah fought a long and bitter battle with the National Graphical Association in Warrington over traditional print union representation at his *Messenger Group*.

It is understood that preliminary approval has been given to the Reed bid at a Guardian board meeting and yesterday Reed executives were already in the Guardian building examining the accounts but Mr Shah's representatives have still to appear on the scene.

No offer is likely to be put before the shareholders before next week at the earliest as Mr Christopher Hatton, chairman of both Greenall Whitley and Academy Court Holdings and the main trustee for the Greenall family in the latter company, is on holiday.

Mr Shah said he did not expect trouble with the print unions if he got control of the Guardian series.

"Jobs are too important," he said. He added that foresaw only "a handful" of redundancies if his bid succeeded.



Top: The missing couple, Robert and Greeba Healey, and the house in Stockport where they lived, now deserted and with bloodstains in the couple's bedroom.

Right: Mr Healey's stepdaughter, Marie Walker, and his Vauxhall Chevette which was found in a Birmingham car park on Sunday.

Plea to 'Reggie Perrin' husband

By Peter Davenport

Police searching for a husband who they believe faked suicide yesterday appealed for him to contact them as fears grew that his missing wife and stepdaughter may be dead.

Mr Robert Healey, a self-employed driving instructor aged 37, has not been seen since driving away from his home in Long Mead Avenue, Hazel Grove, Stockport, Cheshire, last Tuesday evening, having cancelled milk and newspapers.

Yesterday detectives disclosed that his car had been found in an NCP car park near Birmingham's New Street railway station. It had been left there last Thursday.

Twenty-four hours before it was parked, a suicide note addressed to Mr Healey's mother had been found with men's clothing on a beach at Prestatyn in North Wales.

Police visiting the family home found Mr Healey's wife, Greeba, aged 40, and her daughter, Marie, aged 13, were also missing.

They had last been seen there at lunchtime on Monday last week and a search revealed bloodstains in the couple's bedroom.

Police also discovered three video tapes of the *The Rise*

and *Fall of Reginald Perrin*, the television series which features at the start of each episode the central character undressing on a deserted beach and walking into the sea in a faked suicide before embarking on a new life.

Yesterday Det Chief Supt Clive Atkinson, who is leading the inquiry, said: "I am making a personal appeal to Robert Healey to come forward and speak to me, or to any police officer, to relieve the anguish of his parents, his wife's friends and his stepdaughter's father. They are at their wit's end wondering what has happened."

Forensic scientists are examining the bloodstains to see if they match either Mrs Healey or her daughter, but the police believe if they were still alive they would have made contact.

Mr Healey's metallic silver Vauxhall Chevette hatchback, registration TEH 199R, is also being examined. It was left on level three of the car park in Park Street, Digbeth, between 7am and 8pm last Thursday and discovered on Sunday. The police want to find anyone who saw it being parked.

Estate agent's steps retraced

By David Sagsted

"Mr Kipper" walked the streets of London again yesterday as police searching for Miss Susannah Lamplugh, the missing estate agent, reconstructed the young woman's last known journey.

But in spite of more than a thousand calls from the public since the disappearance eight days ago, Scotland Yard admitted to having no clues as to the whereabouts of Miss Lamplugh, aged 25, or "Mr Kipper", the client she arranged to meet at a house in Fulham, south-west London.

"We are no nearer to solving this than we were a week ago," Det Supt Nick Carter said.

"A lot of people follow set patterns and we hope the reconstruction will jog someone's memory."

Several Mr Kippers, including one actively engaged in a search for a property in Fulham, have been interviewed by the police but all have now been ruled out as possible abductors.

Police Constable Susan Long, aged 24, yesterday adopted the identity of the estate agent, leaving the Fulham Road offices of Sturgis and Son, as the missing

woman had done a week earlier, at 12.40pm.

Dressed in a peach-coloured blouse, straight grey skirt and short black jacket, she drove in Miss Lamplugh's white Ford Fiesta to the £128,000, mid-terrace house at 37 Shorrolds Road for her 1 o'clock appointment.

Det Sergeant Christopher Ball, aged 29, dressed in a dark lounge suit in the role of Mr Kipper.

After a few minutes in the house, the two left in Miss Lamplugh's car which, soon afterwards, was parked in Stevedore Road, a short distance from Fulham's Craven Cottage ground near the Thames.

About two dozen officers lined the route the car might have taken, stopping motorists and talking to residents in case they had spotted the L1 Fiesta, registration number B396 GAN, with the straw hat on the rear shelf.

Although an artist's impression of Mr Kipper has been compared to a picture of a man wanted in connection with three attempted rapes in Richmond, the police are not linking Miss Lamplugh's disappearance with that investigation.

Wife hurt in new mail bomb campaign

The wife of a former member of the Ulster Defence Regiment was injured yesterday when a parcel bomb exploded in their living room.

It was the second such attack in the Coleraine, Co Londonderry, area within 24 hours, and brought fears that further devices could be in the mail. It is about five years since letter bombs have been used by Ulster terrorist organizations, but the parcels, sent to the former soldier and a prison officer, may signal the start of another campaign.

The woman, a mother of four in her 40s, recovered after emergency surgery, the RUC urged anyone noticing anything suspicious in the post to report it immediately.

The woman, who suffered hand and arm injuries and may lose the tips of her little fingers, was opening the package at her home at Arriclave, near Coleraine, when it exploded, causing extensive damage to the room.

The device was similar to one defused at the home of a prison officer in Coleraine on Sunday. It had been placed in a hollowed-out book and sent to the house, but the officer became suspicious and called in Army bomb disposal experts who worked for several hours before declaring it safe.

A Roman Catholic working for Belfast City Council survived a Loyalist assassination attempt on the Shankill Road yesterday when he struggled with his attacker.

The workman fought his assailant, who hit him over the head with a hand gun when it failed to go off. At least one shot was fired and the workman needed stitches for injuries to his head.

The attempted killing was the latest in a number of sectarian attacks in the strongly Protestant area. These have resulted in the transfer of Roman Catholics who worked in a local housing executive office after Loyalist murder threats.

Mr James Molyneux, leader of the Official Unionists Party, said yesterday there would be no political movement in the province during the lifetime of this parliament. He was implicitly acknowledging that Unionist protests will not end the Anglo-Irish agreement, although they could delay and prevent its implementation.

He said it was misleading to suggest that talks between the political parties could begin once the marching season ended.

Labour's onslaught on MP who quit

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, the Labour MP who is to resign his seat after "three miserable years" at the hands of the Militant Tendency, was criticised by his colleagues yesterday after his onslaught on Mr Neil Kinnock.

Mr Kilroy-Silk, who plans to quit the Labour stronghold of Knowsley North in September to become a BBC television presenter, accused Mr Kinnock in a letter to *The Times* of "demeaning and undermining" the struggle against Militant.

The Opposition leader was adopting "a cavalier attitude" in his rejection of Mr Kilroy-Silk's reason for resigning, the MP wrote.

"In doing this you undermine the credibility that you have so laboriously established for yourself," Mr Kilroy-Silk added.

But Mr David Winnick, Labour MP for Walsall North, said: "If Mr Kilroy-Silk continues with outbursts against the Labour leader and the Labour Party generally people will begin to wonder how impartial he could possibly be as a presenter with the BBC."

"Whatever difficulties he has had in his constituency, he now seems determined to engage in an open slanging match with the party."

"The best course for him now is that, since he has decided to resign, to retain some dignity, and the sooner this happens the better for him."

Mr Martin Flannery, Labour MP for Sheffield, Hillsborough, said: "He seems to have lost his marbles. He is attacking Mr Kinnock, who has supported him all the way and this action merely strengthens the hand of the enemies of the Labour Party."

Photographer attacked

A freelance photographer who works for *The Sun* was identified by a journalist who used to work for the newspaper and then beaten up and robbed of camera equipment as he covered a demonstration outside News International's plant at Wapping, east London, Thames magistrates were told yesterday.

Mr Barry Beattie's identity was made known to protesters by Oliver Duke, aged 34, of North View Road, Hornsey, north London. Duke admitted threatening behaviour and was fined £200 and ordered to pay £50 costs.

Four bailed on fraud charges

Four Britons accused of a £16 million fraud relating to a £40 million contract to supply anti-tank missiles to Iran were further charged in Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court, south London, yesterday with international frauds involving £29.7 million.

The men were remanded for two months on bail totalling £169,000. Two were ordered not to deal in the arms trade, or to take any international telephone calls except from their families.

Blast caused by gas leak

A gas leak is believed to have caused the explosion which extensively damaged a branch of the National Westminster Bank in Old Street, City of London, early yesterday.

The blast was in the basement and wrecked most of the front of the building. Fire then destroyed about a quarter of the ground floor. A man and a woman driving by at the time were cut by flying glass but they were not badly injured.

Anaesthetists dismissed

Two anaesthetists, suspended from duty pending an internal inquiry into the death of a man at the Lister Hospital, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, have been dismissed.

Mr Michael North, aged 33, of Vardon Road, Stevenage, died in the hospital's intensive care unit after being admitted with severe stomach pains.

Roads closed

Police evacuated part of Harley Street in London and closed roads yesterday after builders renovating a four-storey house on the corner with Devonshire Street reported that it was on the verge of collapse.

238 jobs go

Pembroke Packaging, carton manufacturers, said yesterday that its factory at Basildon, Essex, would close in October with the loss of 238 jobs. Falling cigarette sales and overseas competition were blamed.

Research progress threatened by cuts

The Agricultural and Food Research Council, jointly funded by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Department of Education and Science, is being forced to make drastic economies among the 32 institutes and research stations for which it is responsible. Some of the most drastic cuts affect the world-famous East Malling research station in Kent, where staff fear that their efforts to revive the home-grown fruit industry may be in serious jeopardy. Concluding his two-part article, John Young, Agriculture Correspondent, examines the implications.

At East Malling, just outside Maidstone, the peaceful landscape has a new addition in the shape of several large transparent tent-like structures.

On closer inspection they turn out to be enormous nets, each covering several hundred cherry trees, most of them no more than 10 or 12 feet high.

Anyone with a cherry tree will be well aware of the deprivations inflicted by birds. For commercial growers, the losses can prove crucial.

Thanks to a new dwarfing rootstock, known as Colt, and the selective use of chemical growth regulators, scientists at East Malling have developed small trees which can be protected from the marauders and give heavy yields.

Dr Tony Webster, a senior agronomist working at the station, maintains that the revolution has only begun. All sorts of new varieties are in the pipeline.

Among plums, the English Victoria is still the traditional favourite. As with cherries, the revival of the home-grown industry is being helped by another dwarfing rootstock, known as Pixie.

Smaller trees are ideal for the booming "pick your own" farms which attract tens of thousands of urban visitors on summer weekends.

New varieties are also helping to extend the season.

But there is no mistaking the mood of despondency among the staff at East Malling. To add to their unhappiness they are obliged to refer to themselves as a department of the Institute of Horticultural Research, a name which they say means nothing to their many overseas friends and admirers.

In spite of agreement by growers to finance further research by a levy, and the station's own success in selling its expertise commercially, they believe the Government is taking a short-sighted approach.

"We have to be particularly concerned about future restriction on the use of pesticides," Dr Webster says.

"We are working on the development of biological controls and disease-resistant strains, but it all takes time, much longer than with vegetables for example.

"You can't develop a Cox's apple in five years which will have all the flavour and quality you want and will create its own resistance to pests. It will take more like 20 years."

Concluded

Man sold pirated software

An accountant who pirated computer software and sold it to West Country firms appeared before Taunton Crown Court yesterday.

Richard Turner, aged 35, of Great Yarmouth, admitted four offences concerning using floppy discs.

He was told by Judge Willcock, QC: "If what you did were widespread, a great deal of harm would be done to the business community."

He said that Turner set about the destruction of a Pegasus software system, in breach of copyright, which came "pretty close to dishonesty."

The prosecution said Turner persuaded an engineer to remove the electronic security system from demonstration programmes, which he then copied and sold for more than £4,000.

Turner, now unemployed, was bound over for a year and ordered to pay £250 costs.

Mr Nigel Sweeney, for the defence, said that the offences did not constitute dishonesty and that the "illicit profit" of more than £4,000 was not accepted by the defence.

Miners in ban on overtime

More than 13,000 South Wales miners yesterday began an overtime ban - the first such industrial action in the coalfields since the end last year of the national pit strike.

The ban began on the day the 17 South Wales pits started up after a two-week holiday.

Mr Des Duffield, area president of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), said the action was being taken because of "frustration and low morale" among miners.

The Welsh pitmen are complaining that British Coal has deliberately delayed paying last year's wage increase because of a wrangle over pension contributions during the strike.

New threats of more job losses in the area have also soured relations. Eleven pits and more than 6,000 jobs have already been axed in South Wales since the strike ended.

Coal board chiefs are unlikely to know the action's impact for some time because the ban it applies only to coal production. Ordinary shifts, maintenance and safety work are not affected.



Simon Desorgher (left) and Lawrence Casserley rehearsing a duet for motorcycles with computers which they will present tomorrow evening at the Purcell Room on the South Bank as part of their Electro Acoustic Cabaret (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

Shared housing helps job seekers

Shared ownership is helping home-owners in the north of England to move to jobs in the south, a government minister said yesterday.

The system, which involves part renting and part buying a house, enables people to invest the value of their homes in a part share and so move up the housing ladder. Mr John Patten, Minister for Housing, Urban Affairs and Construction, said.

Announcing government amendments to the Housing and Planning Bill which will widen this form of ownership in the private sector, Mr Patten said it was particularly useful for first-time buyers in high-cost areas who could not afford to buy outright.

In shared ownership, people buy a share and rent the remainder, later purchasing the rented share, by stages if necessary.

Mr Patten said that, so far, virtually all shared ownership had been provided by local authorities, housing associations and new towns.

"These schemes have all relied on public subsidy. Now that building societies are beginning to raise index-linked finance there is a very real chance that shared ownership could be entirely privately financed."

New weapon in the battle for the 'belongers'

By George Brock

The new opinion research method shown to the Prime Minister by Young & Rubicam executives has been developed from a social classification originally developed by a market researcher working in California, Arnold Mitchell.

He evolved a series of standard questions which classify people into one of nine groups. Known in the jargon of the market research trade as a "psychographic" system, it was dubbed "Vals" (an acronym for Values and Lifestyles).

The Young & Rubicam system is called CCC. It is derived from "Vals" principles although it uses some different techniques and terminology.

Vals' unusual characteristic was its versatility: not only is it used widely in business, but it has more recently been put to use by social, military and political organizations.

Most classification systems used by social scientists and

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market researchers divide the population by relatively clear-cut, observable distinctions such as occupation, income, housing and so on. Vals differs by using psychological outlook as the distinguishing factor which creates a set of class distinctions of its own.

The population is graded into nine categories, beginning at the bottom with two groups defined as "needs-driven". These are either "survivors" (mainly old age pensioners, the most disadvantaged of all) or "sustainers" (including the younger poor unhappy at failure to better themselves).

Next, above that, is the largest single group called "belongers". That group, consisting of about 40 per cent of the population, contains solid, stable middle-class people who are conservative (with a small "c") in lifestyles and values, players by the rules and preservers of the moral status quo.

Above that level, the classification divides into people who are "outer-directed" (conducting their lives in response to values from outside), and three smaller groups of "inner-directed" people who live in accordance with their inner values.

The latter groups have been especially useful to US market researchers who have been

trying to analyse the ageing members of the counter-culture "me" generation of the 1960s.

Many of those have settled down (and are important consumers), but their outlook on life is significantly different from preceding generations.

"Outer-directeds" are divided into Emulators (ambitious people on the way up) and Achievers (those at the top of chosen careers). At the apex of the system is a tiny group of "Integrates", who successfully combine inner and outer direction.

Opinion research techniques of that kind are never likely to be all-purpose tool supplying answers to every question. But, by redividing the market or electorate, they can sometimes explain mass behaviour in ways unilluminated by more conventional methods.

Politicians seldom rely on such research completely but use it to strengthen their

Ministers act to heal Thatcher-Tebbit rift

Continued from page 1

Confidence Mrs Margaret Thatcher, in spite of a reputation as an instinctive "conviction" politician, has been an enthusiastic and sophisticated user of opinion research.

Mr Thatcher saw a first presentation of the system about a year ago. Young & Rubicam has also mounted large surveys on drug abuse and the inner city disturbances.

Nato strategists, confronted by continuing opposition in Europe to American nuclear defence policies, have considered using Vals.

The system is sufficiently simple to reproduce, at least approximately.

The only "trade secret" involved is the mix of questions (between 50 and 100) asked of respondents. But the confidential nature of that questioning would be likely to preclude any co-operation between agencies if the Conservative Party wanted to try to hedge its bets.

Ministers should stay in their departments, they say, and let the party machine do its job. They claim that Vals and Lifestyles research (known as Vals) is well known to them and is already making such a contribution to their thinking as is necessary.

Other ministers on the

Police plan... Estate agent...

Costs 'eat up 85p of every £ paid to compensate injured'

By Robin Young

Ninety per cent of accident victims in England and Wales receive no compensation and what is paid is too little and too late, the National Consumer Council says today. For every pound towards compensating the injured, 85p now goes in costs, the council estimates.

In its response to the Lord Chancellor's review of civil justice regarding personal injuries, published today, it argues that there is an urgent need for radical reform of a system which the council describes as "arbitrary, slow and inordinately expensive".

The council partly blames deliberate delaying tactics by insurance companies, lawyers who lack the skills needed to prove negligence, the costly and complex legal system, and accident victims' own ignorance of their legal rights. But many of the problems are endemic to a system which requires the injured to prove that others are at fault.

"Around a tenth of the three million people injured each year in England and Wales engage in a difficult, long-winded and expensive battle with an insurance company. How they will fare will depend more on their knowledge and stamina and on the skills of their lawyers than on the intrinsic justice of their case".

The council claims that the system tries to compensate the injured while making those responsible pay for their negligence, but in most cases fails on both counts. The long-term aim should be a quick and efficient system of compensating all injured people based on their needs and regardless of where blame for the accident lies.

The council does, however, put forward recommendations for short-term procedural changes which its would help to make the existing system more efficient and accessible. They include:

More publicity about injured people's rights to claim compensation and a simplified claim form.

The right to initiate a claim and later withdraw without risking liability for defendant's costs.

A scheme enabling solicitors specializing in injury compensation cases to advertise the fact and a professional rule that solicitors should normally start court proceedings within six months of being consulted.

Speedy provision of non-means tested legal aid for complex cases.

County courts could play a more active part in investigating accidents and small claims might be payable when people start claims, with larger fees payable only when a trial date is set.

Claimants should no longer risk having to meet defendants' full costs in cases where a final court award is less than an advance payment into court.

The council has reservations about the suggestion that claims could be dealt with on written evidence unless either side requests a full trial, but agrees that in cases where the only issue is legal liability the registrar in pre-trial reviews might be given discretion to decide some simple cases on the papers, with a right for dissatisfied parties to appeal to a full court.

Personal Injury Litigation - A Consumer Response to the Civil Justice Review, National Consumer Council, 18, Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1, £2.

Bolshoi director admitted to hospital

By Gavin Bell Arts Correspondent

Mr Yuri Grigorovich, artistic director of the Bolshoi Theatre for 20 years, has been taken to hospital in London suffering from severe stomach pains.

Mr Grigorovich, aged 59, was taken ill at his hotel on Sunday night and is expected to remain in the Middlesex Hospital for several days for extensive tests.

A spokesman said that a preliminary examination indicated gastro-enteritis. His illness was disclosed at a reception in the Soviet Embassy yesterday for members of the ballet company currently performing at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

The spokesman said the Bolshoi tour, which transfers to Manchester and Birmingham before returning to London later this month, would not be affected.

Mr Pyotr Khramov, the tour leader, paid tribute to Mr Grigorovich for developing its classic heritage, while introducing a new, innovative approach.

"Under his direction, a new generation of stars has emerged. He has an intuition for spotting new talent, and a gift for developing it," he said.

Mr Khramov recalled that the company's first foreign tour began in London in 1956, and said that it was delighted to return to appreciative audiences in Britain after an absence of 12 years.

Mr Alexey Nikiforov, an embassy counsellor, said that the tour had been squeezed into a busy schedule after the 1984 visit to London by Mr Mikhail Gorbachov for meet-



Galina Ulanova, the former prima ballerina, with company members Alla Mihalchenko (left) and Nina Speraskaya outside the Soviet Embassy (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Umbrella seller dampened by court

A street trader was fined yesterday after being arrested as he sold umbrellas in a torrential rainstorm.

Ron Jordan, aged 44, was arrested on Sunday as he was besieged by a crowd of people outside the Trocadero Centre, Piccadilly Circus, London.

After spending the night in custody, Jordan, of Squires Lane, Finchley, north London, was fined £30 with £5 costs at Bow Street Magistrates Court after admitting a charge of willful obstruction.

Mr David Hopkin, the chief metropolitan stipendiary magistrate, was told that drenched customers forcing around Jordan, forcing pedestrians to walk off the pavement.

Jordan, still in yellow oilskins after more than 20 hours in custody, was unrepentant. He said that he had been arrested "hundreds of times" for street selling.

Dunhill heir refused bail

Christopher Dunhill, aged 31, heir to the Dunhill tobacco company, was refused bail at Marylebone court, central London, yesterday in spite of sureties of £105,000 offered by his father and brother.

Mr Dunhill, of Spencer Court, Marylebone Place, is charged with supplying 2.5 grammes of cocaine and with charged with handling 41 tapestries and carpets worth £105,000, alleged to have been stolen from outside Christie's auction hall in 1984. He was remanded in custody for a week.

Inquest on fan in train death

Peter Watson, aged 18, a Glasgow Rangers football fan who fell from the overnight express to London on his way to Saturday's game with Tottenham Hotspur, died from fractured skull, a Coroner's inquest was told yesterday.

A boy aged 16 has been interviewed by the police and a file prepared for the Director of Public Prosecutions. The inquest on Watson, a heating engineer, of Motherwell, was adjourned.

Thief takes wedding car

A bride burst into tears when she left the church after the ceremony to discover her wedding car had been stolen outside All Saints, Erdington, Birmingham.

Mrs Kal Thorpe, aged 26, walked happily down the aisle with her new husband Jevan on Saturday, then discovered their vintage open-topped Morris Minor had disappeared, complete with ribbons and flowers.

Boy sought in sex incident

A boy aged eight was being sought yesterday for questioning about an indecent offence against a woman aged 77.

Police are appealing for witnesses to the incident, which occurred when the woman was confronted by three boys as she walked along a footpath in the Whitley area of Coventry on Monday night.

Court fight for job

Mrs Olga Longden, who lost her job as chief administration officer at Barnfield College in Bedfordshire, after she married Mr Wilson Longden, the vice-principal, is to ask the High Court to reinstate her.

Mrs Longden, of Turnpike Drive, Luton, will be seeking a judicial review in October on the decision by Bedfordshire County Council.

Plain deal

The Ministry of Defence yesterday opened to the public a nine-mile section of Salisbury Plain in Wiltshire overlooking the Vale of Pewsey in compensation for closing centuries-old rights of way across the Larkhill gunnery area.

Chain reaction

Villagers at Fulbeck, Lincolnshire, formed a human chain yesterday to stop engineers from Nirex, the government nuclear waste agency, carrying out preliminary tests for a proposed nuclear waste dump near their homes. They plan a 24-hour a day vigil.

Hammer raid

Seventeenth-century silverware and other antiques worth £20,000 were stolen when thieves with sledgehammers raided the Clive House Museum in Shrewsbury, former home of Clive of India, on Sunday.

Tory choice

Mr David Wilshire, aged 42, Tory group leader on Wansley District Council, Avon, has been selected as the prospective parliamentary candidate for the safe Conservative seat of Spelthorne.

Chairman 'steamed open mail'

A company chairman steamed open a director's letters after being tipped off about a possible boardroom coup, an industrial tribunal was told yesterday.

Mr Bobby Garrett, the head of a company selling insurance for film sets, had been alerted to the planned takeover by Mrs Elizabeth Byford, his secretary.

Mrs Byford told the hearing that Mr Garrett stormed into the office of Mr William Cross, a director, when he was told about the plan.

"He turned over Mr Cross's desk, went into the cupboard where all his administration was and steamed open the letters and sealed them up again," she said.

Mrs Byford said that Mr Garrett was frustrated because when he asked the directors questions about the business "he could not get straight answers out of them".

The hearing, which began yesterday, is the first in a series of 1982 when the five directors, ousted Mr Garrett, the company founder, after buying up 57 per cent of the shares.

Mrs Byford said that she was dismissed after the takeover for allegedly passing on information about a secret boardroom account to the minority shareholders.

Mr Garrett, who died at 72 of cancer three weeks after he was deposed, had employed Mrs Byford 20 years earlier.

She said that she spoke to him on his deathbed and promised to look after the minority shareholders.

Mrs Byford claimed that some of the money from the secret account was used to buy up shares for the takeover of Film Finances, based in Berkeley Square, Mayfair.

Acting on information from Mrs Byford, shareholders issued a High Court writ on the directors who then dismissed Mrs Byford from her £40,000 job, it was said.

The tribunal was also told that the Inland Revenue was investigating the company.

Mrs Byford, aged 40, of Putney Hill, Putney, south-west London, is claiming unfair dismissal.

The hearing, at Chelsea, west London, continues today.

Lesbian 'battered in jealous attack'

A games mistress attacked her deputy head with a claw hammer, leaving her paralysed, out of jealousy because of a lesbian love triangle, a court was told yesterday.

Susan Craker, aged 35, was found in a pool of blood after being beaten about the head and face, Mr John Hillon, for the prosecution, told the Central Criminal Court.

She was brutally and ferociously attacked, receiving near-fatal injuries. She is now paralysed, has brain damage and her speech is very slow. "She will never be a school teacher again," he said.

Jayne Scott, aged 30, of Croft Road, Farnham, Buckinghamshire, denies causing and inflicting grievous bodily harm to Miss Craker on August 6 last year. Both women were then teachers at Slough and Eton Secondary School.

Mr Hillon told the jury that "the horrific attack was born out of old-fashioned jealousy - not between a man and woman but between a woman and another woman".

The attack happened while Miss Craker, Miss Scott, and Miss Craker's new lover, Mrs Deborah Fox, were all staying at a house in Abbots Road, Barnet, north London, which Miss Craker had inherited and was redecorating.

Mrs Fox and Miss Scott had shared a flat since 1983 and had enjoyed a lesbian relationship. The physical affection ceased, but they continued to share the flat and the same bed," Mr Hillon said.

In 1985, Mrs Fox and Miss Craker realized there was a physical attraction between them. "It came to the knowledge of Miss Scott in due course. She was very upset. One cannot underestimate the hurt she felt at her discovery," Mr Hillon said.

He told the jury that on August 6, the three breakfasted and Mrs Fox went out to buy a newspaper. She left Miss Craker sitting on the floor reading a book.

"What happened in the next 10 minutes is a horrifying story. Sitting cross-legged, Miss Craker was attacked with a hammer. She was struck a heavy blow on the side of her head when her back was to her assailant."

He said that when Mrs Fox returned she saw Miss Scott in a distressed state saying "Debbie, it's Sue - Sue".

In an interview with the police, Miss Scott said that Mrs Fox was out shopping and she went for a bath, leaving Miss Craker reading. She thought she heard a noise, but was in the bath and ignored it.

When she came downstairs she found Mrs Craker lying on the floor, her face and hair covered in blood.

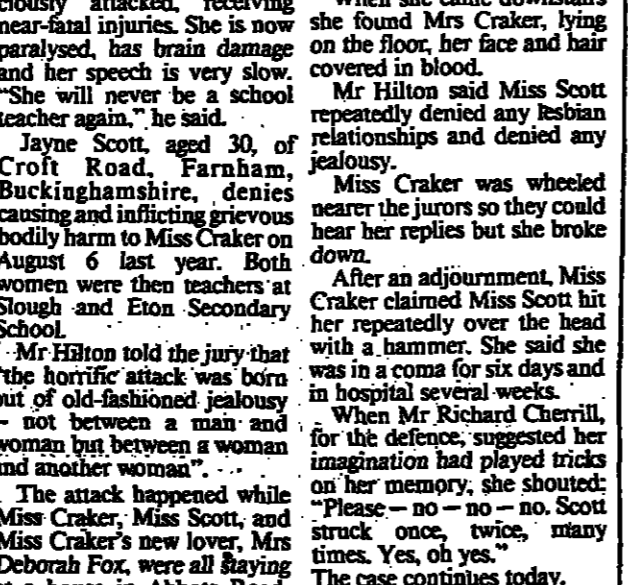
Mr Hillon said Miss Scott repeatedly denied any lesbian relationships and denied any jealousy.

Miss Craker was wheeled near the jurors so they could hear her replies but she broke down.

After an adjournment, Miss Craker claimed Miss Scott hit her repeatedly over the head with a hammer. She said she was in a coma for six days and in hospital several weeks.

When Mr Richard Cherrill, for the defence, suggested her imagination had played tricks on her memory, she shouted: "Please - no - no - no. Scott struck once, twice, many times. Yes, oh yes."

The case continues today.



Miss Susan Craker: battered with hammer. Miss Jayne Scott: accused of attack.

NHS 'risks losing business'

Britain's largest private health insurance firm has said the national health service could price itself out of the pay bed market.

Bupa, which provides cover for 70 per cent of private health insurance subscribers, argues that the health service risks losing a substantial part of its £48 million annual income from private patient fees if charges rise substantially next year.

"If the NHS keeps on charging more it will get to the point where it will cease to be competitive with private hospitals," Bupa said. "It will then start losing business."

The company's warning comes after complaints from the Comptroller and Auditor General that health authorities are failing to recoup the full cost of expensive operations.

The report prompted a consultation document from the Department of Health last June which proposed either introducing higher charges nationally for costly treatment or allowing health authorities to set their own charges.

In the latter case, the health authority would be able to recover the full cost of the treatment but would not be allowed to make a profit.

Mr Kenneth Collis, chairman of the Central Manchester district health authority, says his district, which receives £1 million a year from private fees, is turning away private patients who need more complicated operations.

Mr Collis has written to the national health management board asking for permission to charge patients for the extra costs.

At present, patients are charged a blanket daily rate based on the type of hospital in which they are.

A single room would cost £120 a day in a district general hospital and £185 in teaching hospitals.

The Comptroller's report shows that in one health authority the cost of performing hip replacement operations is £800 a patient. But the authority recovers only £300 a private case because of early discharges of such patients to private nursing homes.

Bupa's charges for specialist fees (covering the cost of the surgeon and anaesthetist) range from £156 for a minor operation such as the removal of a wart or mole to between £919 and £1,849 for a complex major operation such as bypass surgery.

Worms hit ancient teasel crop

By Hugh Clayton Environment Correspondent

Tiny worms have killed off most of this year's harvest of fuller's teal, one of Britain's most ancient crops.

The hooked hairs on the seed heads of the fullers teal were used for hundreds of years to tress up the fibres on woollen cloth.

The main use today is to pull up the nap on the green baze that covers snooker tables.

The only teasel merchant left in Britain said yesterday that there was no danger of a shortage.

Mr Cyril George, managing director of Edmund Taylor of Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, said: "We have enough in reserve to compensate for a bad harvest."

There was once a heavy trade in teasels between Somerset, where the plants have been grown for at least 700 years, and the textile industry in northern England.

The cultivated plant is a close relative of the wild teasel which looks like a tall thistle, but is related instead to the blue wild scabious which is now flowering by many roads.

Mr Gordon Chedzey, who farms an acre of teasels on a 1,000-acre farm at Curry River near Taunton, said the crop there had been cut by 80 per cent by eelworm.

Dealers promote satellite TV

By Bill Johnston, Technology Correspondent

The two satellites are Intelsat operated by the International Satellite Organization, and ECS-1 (European Communication Satellite-1).

The cost of the receiving equipment starts at about £1,100 but it is expected to drop by at least half within 18 months as the demand grows.

High-powered television satellites are planned for France, Germany and Britain within the next four years and will offer consumers a choice of another dozen television stations.

Businesses and educational establishments are also expected to have substantial interest in satellite television.

Businesses will be able to pick up live financial news from all parts of the world.

The network, which will spread across England and Scotland, is the idea of the Bristol-based Satellite Technology Systems, backed by the commercial television company Television South (TVS) from Southampton.

Last year TVS invested £440,000 in buying 47 per cent of STS.

British viewers equipped with the appropriate antenna can now receive, via two satellites, 17 television channels - largely a mixture of German, French, Italian and English programming.

Court bid for carvings

A clergyman, Dr George Pattison, has taken action in the Dutch courts to win back Flemish carvings worth £100,000, stolen from his church nine years ago.

The nine fifteenth century carvings, depicting the Passion of Christ, had been in St George's Church, Stowlangtoft, Suffolk, since the 1800s, but were stolen in 1977 and smuggled to the Netherlands.

In 1981 the carvings were stolen for a second time and were eventually bought from an antiques shop by a Dutchman, Mr Ted Mooren, who donated them to a museum.

A museum worker discovered the identity of the carvings. The court action was initiated after Dr Pattison offered to buy them back, but Mr Mooren refused to sell.

Police plea over cell-death victim

Police appealed to the public yesterday to help to piece together the last hours of a man who died from internal injuries in a police station cell.

Mr Philip Howard, aged 31, an unemployed labourer, was arrested for drunkenness after a scuffle with a friend at his home after a night out.

His family have called for a full independent inquiry into his death, which is being investigated by the Police Complaints Authority by officers from another force.

South Wales police were yesterday trying to trace a taxi driver or another friend who gave Mr Howard a lift from a club at Porth, Mid Glamorgan, to his home near in Hendrefadog Street, Tylorstown, Rhondda, late last Thursday, the night he died.

Mr Howard was arrested at 12.30 am and died at a Torpentre police station about four hours later. A post-mortem examination showed he died from stomach haemorrhage.

Relatives claimed Mr Howard was handled roughly as he was put into a police car and banged his head on the pavement.

Mr Allan Rogers, Labour MP for Rhondda, said yesterday that Mr Howard wanted to him five months ago alleging he was being harassed by police.

The Police Complaints Authority ordered an inquiry after Mr Howard's woman friend, Mrs Megan Roberts, said she saw police banging his head on the pavement.

Detectives from the Gwent force were called in to investigate the claims and the South Wales Police Authority is carrying out an internal inquiry. Mr Howard's family want an independent inquiry.

Estate agents reject legislation as gazumping rises again

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

An unmodernized three-bedroom house in Fulham, south-west London, requiring about £40,000 spending on it, was put on the market recently at £125,000. After the offer was accepted, an increased bid came in and the two potential buyers continued bidding until the house was sold for £142,000.

It was a classic case of gazumping which had an honourable ending, for the vendor who had made nearly £20,000 more than he had asked, paid the expenses of the losing bidder.

Mr Richard Rawlings, from the Fulham office of Winkworth, the estate agents, said that in his area, where gazumping was now as widespread as it had been in the last boom in the early 1970s, the vendor paid the fees of a losing bidder in about one in five cases.

"It can happen where a vendor says he wants a quick sale, holds a contract race and then recompenses the loser."

That is Mr Rawlings' answer to gazumping, and he does not want controls to prevent it happening. "If it were controlled, it would be easy for agents to make a sale suck, but it could be at the expense of our client," he said.

House prices increased by 13.6 per cent over the year to July 31, according to the latest Halifax Building Society house price index published today. The increase over the past three months was 4.4 per cent.

The forecast for house price inflation this year is almost 13 per cent. The average price of second-hand houses stands at £39,675, 14.3 per cent higher than a year ago. Prices in Greater London are 25 per cent higher than in July 1985, with the average price at £54,270.

He did not advocate the Scottish system of house-buying, where acceptance of an offer is binding on both parties, because it has its own difficulties, such as the need for all interested parties to have a survey.

"It is a matter of getting to the contract stage, and in Scotland they get there more quickly."

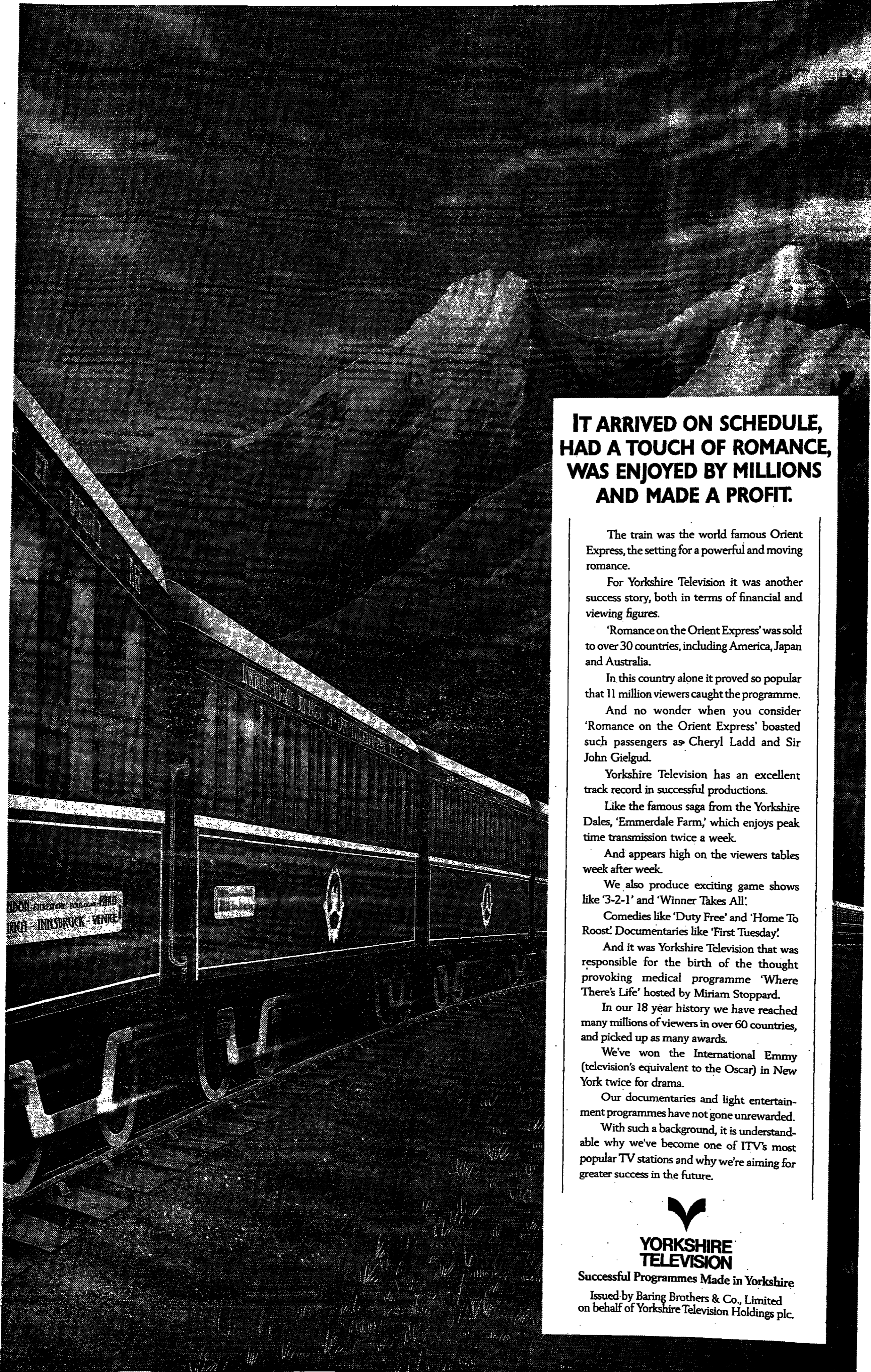
Mr Short said the problem could be avoided if the buyer agreed to sign the contract, and if there were difficulties with finance or a chain, it could mean the agreement for a long completion date and acceptance of the need for bridging finance.

Mr Christopher Roupell, from Winkworth's South Kensington office, recently had an example in Lewham Gardens, when a "pretty ordinary" property on offer at £85,000 was accepted, only to attract another buyer.

It eventually sold for nearly £100,000, an example that "whenever more than one party like a property, the price will go up."

Mr Roupell said that "true" gazumping, where offers continued to be made and accepted above the original asking price, was rare.

Mr Ruairaidh Adams-Cairns, of Savills, emphasized that gazumping did not only affect the potential purchaser.



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from car

Anti-apartheid groups call on leaders to resist British pressure

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The United Democratic Front (UDF), a loose alliance of anti-apartheid groups which shares the political aims of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC), yesterday called on Commonwealth leaders meeting in London not to allow themselves to be dictated to by Mrs Thatcher.

It was clear, the UDF declared in a statement issued by its acting publicity secretary, Mr Murphy Morobe, that Mrs Thatcher was "more concerned about protecting the profits than about ending the system of racial oppression and economic exploitation that are propped up by these profits".

It was a "slap in the face" for the people of South Africa that Mrs Thatcher continued to defend Pretoria even after her Government had been "kicked in the teeth" by President Botha when he rejected the proposals put to him at the end of last month by Sir Geoffrey Howe.

Meanwhile, South African Airways (SAA) yesterday de-

nied a claim in a newspaper report here that it had sold several of its Boeing 747 jetties to foreign banks on a "lease-back" basis, as part of a contingency plan for dealing with a possible loss of landing rights in foreign countries.

The newspaper, *The Star* of Johannesburg, reported that SAA, by selling the aircraft and then leasing them back, wanted to avoid being stuck with ownership of aircraft it could not use in the event that landing rights were revoked - a sanction being considered by Western countries.

SAA's media relations officer, Mr Francois Louw, said: "SAA always looks at all options, and this is an option, but no such sales or lease-back deals whatever have taken place."

Mr Louw said it was true that SAA had leased - but not sold - eight of its jetties (a fifth of its total fleet) to foreign airlines to reduce excess capacity. This decision, he said, had been necessitated by the economic recession and

shrinking passenger loads on overseas routes.

In the black township of Lamontville, near Durban, three soldiers were killed and another three seriously injured when their armoured vehicle overturned after colliding with a car on Sunday night, it was reported by the police yesterday. The black driver of the car was slightly injured.

In Pretoria, the Government's Bureau for Information said last night that 17 black youths had been arrested in a shopping centre in Soweto, Johannesburg's black satellite city, but said it could not confirm reports that as many as 100 schoolchildren involved in class boycotts had been detained.

JOHANNESBURG: The Rev Duncan Buchanan, Dean of St. Mary's Cathedral, was elected yesterday as the new Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg, replacing Bishop Desmond Tutu, who will be enthroned as Archbishop of Cape Town next month (AP reports).

Airlines to seek new routes in Africa

By Michael Bailly Transport Editor

Britain's two leading airlines flying to Africa, British Airways and British Caledonian, are seeking licences to fly to Botswana on South Africa's northern border as sanctions appear to move closer.

Gaborone airport in Botswana is only 30 minutes from Johannesburg and could in theory be used as an alternative if direct flights are banned.

But any airline seeking to circumvent sanctions in that way could face counter-measures from other African states.

British Caledonian, which has numerous flights to west and central Africa, said yesterday that its application had nothing to do with South Africa. Flights to Gaborone would be justified solely on local traffic.

British Airways which, unlike British Caledonian, has a large existing business with South Africa - its eight flights a week to Johannesburg, Durban, and Cape Town are thought to be worth about £10 million a year - said it was taking the step to protect its commercial interests.

It clearly fears that other airlines serving South Africa will take similar measures and it could lose heavily if it failed to follow suit.

Each airline is opposing the other's application, and both will be heard at a public hearing in London on September 22-25.

BA is applying for licences for direct flights from Heathrow or Gatwick to Gaborone, and other flights to Gaborone from Harare, Nairobi, Lilongwe, Entebbe, and Dar es Salaam.

No firm proposals for services have yet been made, the airline said yesterday; it hopes the eventualities will arise.

British Caledonian wants a licence for Gatwick to Gaborone direct, and for flights to Gaborone from Douala, Kano, Kinshasa, Lagos, Libreville, and Lusaka.



Municipal law enforcement officers from the Mtombolwazi training college at their passing-out parade yesterday in Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

EEC aids Chinese typhoon victims

Brussels (AFP) - The EEC will extend an emergency aid package worth more than £33,000 to China to help victims of typhoon Peggy in Guangdong Province, it was announced here yesterday.

Delivery of the aid, the first emergency help from the community to China, will be worked out between Chinese authorities and the EEC executive commission.

Typhoon Peggy last month killed 210 people, injured 1,740 and destroyed 114,000 homes.

New envoys to UN named

Mr Alexander Belonogov, aged 55, has been named Russian Ambassador to the United Nations, the Foreign Ministry confirmed (Our Foreign Staff writes).

Dame Nita Barrow, a member of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group which went to South Africa in June, has been named the Barbados Ambassador to the UN.

Germans flee

Luebeck, West Germany (AP) - Two East German men escaped through a border fence, jumped into a river in northern West Germany and were rescued by a passing pleasure boat.

Cholera queues

Hong Kong (Reuters) - More than 18,000 people queued for cholera vaccinations as the number of confirmed cases in Hong Kong rose to 10, health officials said.

Road deaths

Madrid (AP) - Road accidents during the first August weekend in Spain claimed 81 lives, nearly three times as many as in the same period last year.

Nuclear claim

Stockholm (AP) - Reindeer owners in northern Sweden are to demand £160 compensation for each animal put down because of radioactive contamination from the Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

Air crash

Castries, St Lucia (AFP) - Fifteen people died when a Caribbean Airlines (Liat) twin-engine aircraft crashed on its final approach to Kingstown airport on the nearby Lessee Antilles island of St Vincent.

Royal birth

Luxembourg (Reuters) - Princess Maria-Theresa of Luxembourg, wife of the heir to the throne, Prince Henri, has given birth to a son, Prince Louis Xavier Marie Guillaume.

Killer hunted

Breckenridge, Texas (AP) - Police are hunting a condemned murderer who escaped with a woman inmate after locking his jailer in a cell at Stephens County Jail. The woman was recaptured.

Athlete dies

Houston (Reuters) - Bob Rogey, aged 29, the top-ranked javelin thrower in the world in 1982, has died in an accident involving a lorry here.

Fraud claim

Washington (AFP) - The First Fidelity Bank at Newark, New Jersey, was reported to have laid a charge against extreme right-wing politician Lyndon La Rouché of fraudulently obtaining \$750,000 (£500,000) with credit cards.

Floods toll

Dakha (AP) - Floods in northern Bangladesh have stranded thousands of people, inundated croplands and left four dead since last week.

Boat tragedy

Jakarta (AFP) - Between 40 and 50 people were missing and feared drowned after an overcrowded boat sank in stormy weather off the coast of Borneo.

Santiago blast

Santiago (AFP) - One person died and two were wounded when a bomb exploded in a Santiago army barracks.

Killer lions

Dar es Salaam (AP) - Marauding lions mauled a man to death in Tanzania's southern Tunduru district, bringing to 16 the number of people killed by the marauding beasts in the area this year.

32 defect

Munich (Reuters) - Twenty Poles and 12 Czechoslovaks on holiday in Bavaria at the weekend failed to appear for the journey home, border police said.

Air debut

Peking (AFP) - China is to take part for the first time in the Farnborough international air show this month.

Two killed in nuclear plant fire

Johannesburg - Two men were killed and two seriously injured in a fire at South Africa's top-secret nuclear research and development plant at Pelindaba, near Pretoria, it was disclosed yesterday (Michael Hornsby writes).

Officials said no radioactive material was involved, and the fire was a third of a mile from the nearest reactor.

The victims were members of a cleaning team "engaged in a routine task" and were the only people in the building when the fire started. It was quickly put out. The incident occurred last Sunday.

Pelindaba is part of a larger complex that includes a uranium enrichment plant which could give South Africa the capacity to make nuclear weapons.

Lange criticizes Thatcher stance

From Richard Long, Wellington

New Zealand's Prime Minister, Mr David Lange, yesterday criticized Mrs Thatcher's opposition to economic sanctions against South Africa, saying the stance was being taken to protect British financial interests.

He also angrily criticized Mr Jim Spicer, the British Conservative Party vice-chairman, for the "bigoted, biased" views he presented to the annual conference of New Zealand's Opposition National Party at the weekend.

Mr Lange said Britain did not own the Commonwealth, and New Zealand would go along with the form of sanctions decided by the Commonwealth mini-summit in London.

He acknowledged that a

heavy burden would fall on the front-line African states if widespread sanctions were imposed on South Africa. In an extreme case, this would require a big rescue effort.

"This is a situation which, I think, would be rather akin to a Berlin airlift. If there were comprehensive, mandatory, and successful economic sanctions against South Africa, then you could have a huge operation to ensure the survival of those adjoining countries."

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia's re-elected Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, said yesterday the he had no sympathy for the problems faced by Mrs Thatcher at the summit meeting (Reuters reports).

Muslims fail in Malaysia poll

From M M G Pillai, Kuala Lumpur

Malaysia's fundamentalist Islamic challenge fizzled out after last weekend's general election, in which the National Front was returned to power in the Federal Government and retained control of all 11 state assemblies.

But the strong urban Chinese preference for the opposition Democratic Action Party (DAP) highlighted a polarization between the two principal races, with all the implications of a coming clash.

The National Front was returned in 147 of the 177 parliamentary constituencies; the DAP won 24, the Theocratic Pan-Malaysian Islamic Party (PAS) one and independents five. The National Front attained a two-thirds majority by 66m on Sunday and won 89 of the 351 state assembly constituencies in 11 states.

The PAS debacle had not been expected. Opposition pressure to whittle away the Government's two-thirds majority was dependent on the PAS doing well in the Muslim Malay rural hinterland - and the DAP doing likewise in urban Chinese areas.

Leaders of PAS and the Malaysian Chinese Association, a member of the ruling coalition, yesterday promised a post mortem on their poor showing. In the next Parliament the PAS voice will be muted and the coalition's Chinese presence drastically reduced.

The PAS went into the election with the aim of being an alternative government, and

to form the government in four states. To widen its support among the non-Muslims, already suspicious of its fundamentalist intentions, the PAS entered into a loose alliance with prominent Chinese cultural and educational groups and other non-Malay political parties.

But it was clear that even the Malay community, most susceptible to an Islamic state, tuencies which returned opposition members. This would only bring about a further alienation, political sources noted, yesterday.

The two main Chinese parties in the coalition, the Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA) and the Malaysian People's Movement (Gerakan), lost 19 of the 41 seats they contested.

In the coalition they cannot articulate as loudly as their constituents would like them to, for fear of a backlash from the other 12 coalition members. The fact that several of their leaders were returned from Malay-majority rural or semi-rural constituencies only adds to their problems.

There is a growing view that the Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, fresh from his victory, would have to devote his attention to cracks in his coalition.

Most of these were papered over because of the election, but the possibility of a Chinese electorate being represented in Parliament from the opposition benches is something that upsets the Government.

All coalition leaders, including Cabinet ministers, were returned without difficulty. The PAS lost all its senior leaders, although Haji Hadi Awang, its Ayatollah, whose views on Islamization were reflected in its election strategy, was returned to the Trengganu State Assembly. Its only victory was in Kelantan, the state where it had been widely predicted to form the next Government.

FINAL RESULTS

Party	Seats	(%)
National Front	147	(82)
DAP	24	(13)
PAS	1	(.5)
Independents	5	(2.8)
Total	177	100

* Parties in the National Front, which won a total of 147 seats compared with 132 in the old House.

Reagan hits Hollywood for glorifying drugs

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President Reagan, denouncing Hollywood and rock'n'roll culture for glorifying drugs, said drug dealers deserved the death penalty.

He told *Newsweek* in an interview published yesterday that the city which nurtured him made drug use appear "attractive and funny, not dangerous and sad".

Some recent films had made drugs appear easy and enjoyable. Musicians whom young people like "make no secret of the fact that they are users".

He did not think drug users should be imprisoned, but should be helped.

States should not punish addicts who voluntarily asked for and accepted aid from drug dealers, he believed, deserved to die.

He recognized the opposition this would arouse in the US, however, and said his own view was that it would be counterproductive.

Among the President's proposals for dealing with America's drug crisis, an issue on which his wife, Nancy, has launched an international crusade, was the suggestion that all Cabinet members should submit to voluntary drug tests.

He had a chance to put this idea to them personally yesterday when he met his Cabinet to discuss his new nationwide anti-drug programme.

Mr Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, said the Cabinet domestic policy council had been soliciting views from all relevant government agencies and law enforcement bodies.

These will be discussed in the next few weeks, while Mr Reagan speaks out on the drug question.

Meanwhile, an opinion poll showed that nearly two-thirds of Americans favour prosecution for possession of marijuana, and say the Government is not spending enough to combat drug use. Six years ago a similar Gallup poll found that only 43 per cent believed the possession of marijuana should be a criminal offence.

The latest poll found broad support for periodic screening for use, with 85 per cent of those questioned also wanting the police to take such tests.

The poll also found 72 per cent wanted drug screening for athletes and government workers, 60 per cent wanted to see this for high school pupils and 50 per cent wanted it for job categories not included in the poll.

Family's life savings stolen from car boot

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Soenderborg, Denmark (AP) - A Canadian family lost its entire life savings of \$Can380,000 (£181,000) in cash, which was stolen from their parked car in Soenderborg, police said yesterday.

Mr Fritz Karger of Victoria, British Columbia, his wife Lizzy and two children had driven to Denmark from West Germany on Sunday and planned to stay only a few hours to see the sights.

They were visiting Soenderborg Castle when a thief stole a briefcase containing the family's savings - \$Can1,000 notes from the boot of the car.

Mr Karger, a West German citizen, sold his Canadian company before he left Canada to return and buy a house in Hamburg. Since the family had not been able to make a decision about a house, they took the money with them to Denmark. The cash, which was not covered by insurance, was stolen without any damage to the car.

"The lid of the boot probably wasn't closed properly, because a strap from a bag or something was caught in between," a police spokesman said.



Picasso held to ransom

Melbourne (Reuters) - A group calling itself "Australia Cultural Terrorists" threatened yesterday to destroy Picasso's "Weeping Woman" (pictured above) unless the Victoria State Government paid a ransom and boosted funding for the arts.

The previously unknown group sent a note to the Government saying its members stole the 1937 painting from the Victorian National Gallery last weekend, police said.

The Picasso, bought last December and valued at up to \$Ams1.5 million (£600,000), was described by the gallery director, Mr Patrick McCaughey, one of the most important works of modern art and the climax of the gallery's collection.

Mr Dorman, one of the Congressmen most active in supporting the Contra rebels seeking the military overthrow of President Ortega's Government, suggested that Mr Reagan had never heard "the other side." He then offered, somewhat improbably, to arrange a meeting.

Mr Jackson, who has cast himself in the role of peacemaker between Washington and Managua, escorted him around Chicago at the weekend, and invited him to dinner with US reporters.

President Ortega's US tour, itself bizarre in view of the Reagan Administration's vilification of him and transparent attempt to have him overthrown, follows his abortive attempt in the UN Security Council to get the US to abide by World Court rulings on Nicaragua. For this, he was granted the usual visa issued to heads of states.

But, armed with his visa, he then sallied forth into the American heartland on a propaganda mission which has attracted considerable press interest.

In Denver he likened the Sandinista revolution to the US civil rights movement, and got a standing ovation from black lawyers. He has addressed Hispanic and religious leaders, had breakfast at a Catholic church, dined in New York with Mary Travers, a leading folk singer, and plunged into curious crowds, shaking hands.

Pakistan tells envoys to stay out of politics

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Islamabad - The Pakistan Government has warned members of foreign missions against participating in political meetings (Hasan Akhtar writes).

The warning followed reports of Soviet and Afghan diplomats attending the convention of a new left-wing political party, the Awami National Party.

The participation of Soviet diplomats and the Afghan Chargé d'Affaires in the party's convention in Karachi on July 26 and 27 has caused a political controversy, since the new party has declared itself against the United States and called for direct and close links with the Kabul regime.

Lie detector hooks the angler who shot a line

From Paul Valley, New York

Alva Arding will go down in angling folklore as the one that did not get away.

The hapless fisherman has just been sentenced to two years' hard labour for cheating in an angling competition.

The 40-year-old pipefitter did not, even the prosecution agreed, set out to win the Louisiana bass casters' tournament. He merely wanted to bump up his score with the addition of several sizeable specimens he had caught earlier in the week.

He was not to know that on the day the weather would change and they would constitute a winning catch.

In any case the five bass which he had hidden in a bucket underneath, to be spotted out on the big day, were spotted in advance by the father of one of the tournament officials while he was out perch fishing.

The wily angler and his son pulled up the bucket and broke the second dorsal fin of each fish. Then they called local fishery officials and an accident involving a lorry here.

The next day when Mr Arding arrived with his string of fish they did not tell him he had been caught out by the polygraph. Instead they awarded him first prize in the "heavy string" division.

But when he came forward to accept his prizes of \$100 cash plus a \$4,500 boat and rig he was arrested by game wardens.

The severity of the sentence was due, according to his lawyer, Mr Ernest Johnson, to his previous record, which included drunken driving, passing false cheques and offences against the Migrating Birds Act.

Iceland and China agree energy deal

From Tony Samstag Oslo

Icelandic and Chinese scientists have agreed in principle on a project to develop sources of geothermal energy in Tibet, which is thought to have more than 500 hot-water springs.

Mr Steingimur Hermannsson, the Icelandic Prime Minister, is to visit Peking later this year to discuss the scheme. The announcement from Reykjavik follows a three-week tour of potential sites by six Icelandic scientists in June, during which they demonstrated geothermal equipment and techniques to the Chinese.

Iceland, the largest volcanic island in the world, has become the international leader in geothermal technology.

Geothermal energy provides virtually all Reykjavik's domestic heating, as well as feeding scores of open-air swimming pools.

Spanish report clears most tourist beaches

From Richard Wigg Madrid

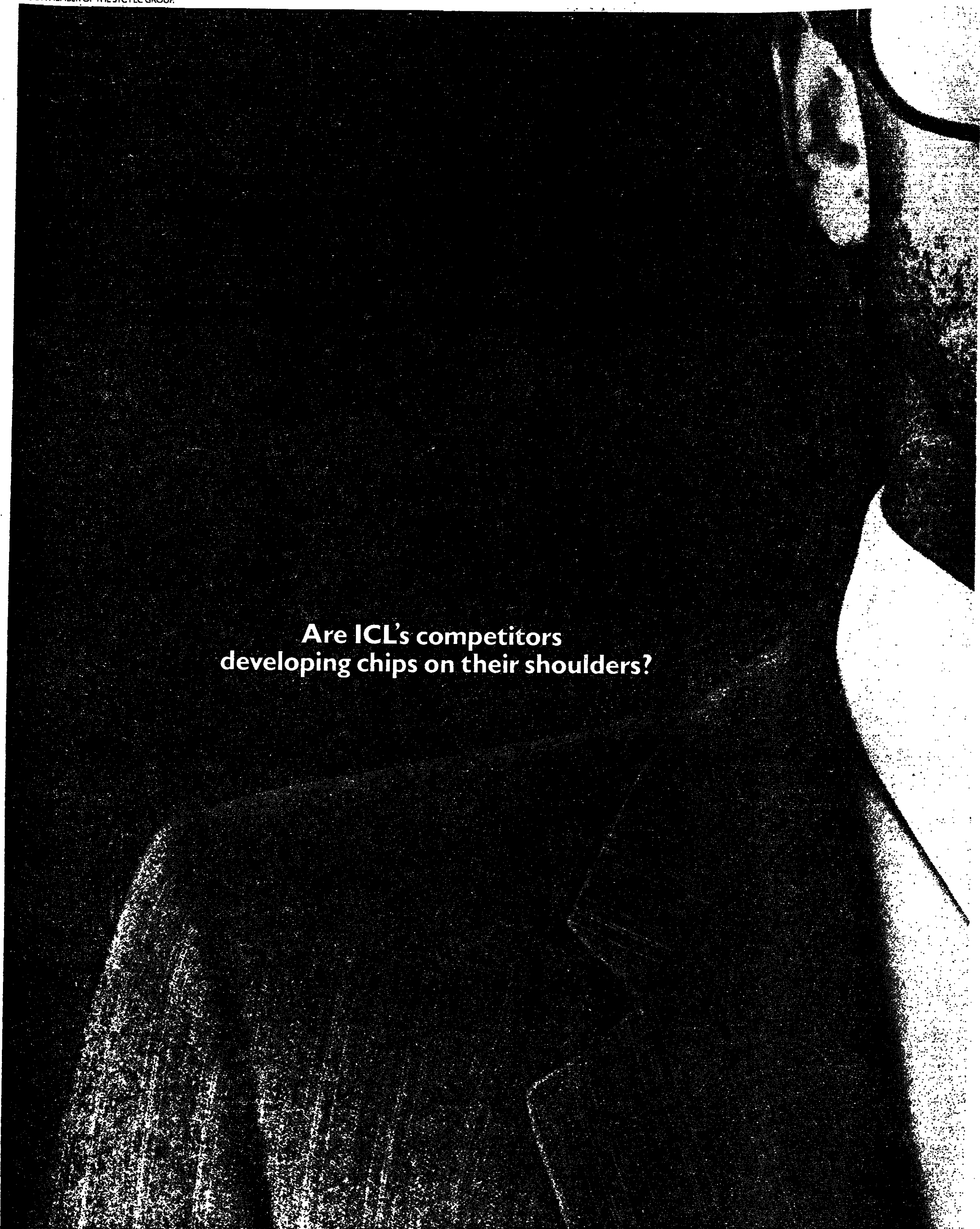
All the beaches in Spain's Balearic Islands are open this summer to tourists without any contamination problems, according to the islands' health authority.

After a survey of the various autonomous regional governments, only Andalusia, the Basque country, the Canaries and Galicia reported problems at some of their beaches.

Catalonia, which reported having spent more than £60 million before the season started on new or improved sewage disposal plant, said all 116 beaches inspected were found satisfactory.

Andalusia reported 138 beaches along its coasts were satisfactory out of 156 inspected. Bathing from 13 beaches in the Basque country was considered "inadvisable" and in the Canaries three beaches were found to present health risks.

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Security forces hunt guerrillas who launched Cyprus assault

Nicosia (Reuters) — British and local security forces yesterday combed Cyprus for guerrillas who launched rocket and mortar attacks on Britain's Akrotiri military base on Sunday night.

Major Gordon Birdwood, a base spokesman, said witnesses were being interviewed and an intensive search was under way in co-operation with Cypriot authorities. But officials said no suspects had been found.

Two women, Mrs Sandra Edwards, aged 25, and Mrs Eileen Malpass, aged 32, both wives of British non-commissioned officers, were slightly injured when 60mm mortar bombs, rockets, grenades and small arms fire hit the Akrotiri married quarters and a windsurfing club, Major Birdwood said.

A previously unknown group calling itself "United Nasserite Organization - Cairo", in a statement delivered to Beirut's *an-Nahar* newspaper, claimed responsibility for the attack.

It said the attack was "designed to participate in the liberation of the friendly Cypriot people, retaliate against British-Zionist-American oppression, and (was) in revenge for the martyrs of our nation in Egypt, Libya, Lebanon, Palestine and Syria."

The Cyprus Government condemned the attack.

Mr George Iacovou, the Cypriot Foreign Minister, will meet Mr John Willborforce, the British High Commissioner, to discuss the incident, official sources said.

Cypriot security sources said they were investigating a possibility, "based on strong indications", that the guerrilla group could have come through the Turkish-occupied northern part of Cyprus, and might already have returned.

They said heavy weapons apparently used in the attack could not have passed through security checks at Cypriot ports or airports.

The breakaway Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, recognized only by Turkey, is beyond the control of the internationally-recognized Government of Cyprus.

An official source said preparations and the attack itself took place within the sovereign base area.

He said stricter travel control through Akrotiri, on a peninsula 60 miles south-west of Nicosia, and Britain's other Cyprus base, Dhekelia, could cause serious problems for visitors to the coastal holiday resorts of Ayia Napa and Paphos.

Ten thousand British servicemen, civilians and their dependants serve on the bases, covering a total of 99 sq miles. The bases were put on alert for reprisals after Britain backed the US air raids on Libya on April 15.

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A farmer dumps wheat in the grounds of the United States Embassy in Canberra as part of a protest by Australian grain producers against the Reagan Administration's decision to sell subsidized wheat on Australian markets.

Later the protesting farmers had a meeting with Mr Bill Lane, the US Ambassador (Stephen Taylor writes from Sydney).

They came away from the meeting saying they had been given no guarantee that the US sales would not go even further than the present intention to supply wheat to the Soviet Union.

A Canberra delegation returned from Washington at the weekend after failing to persuade President Reagan to exercise his power of veto over the deals.

Australian producers face losses of around \$400 million (about £160 million), and there has been a sharp increase here in anti-American rhetoric in the past week.

But the Government has said it will not take up calls by Labor backbenchers to use American military bases in Australia as bargaining counters in negotiations.

By-election shocks for Hawke

From Stephen Taylor Sydney

Shock results in two state by-elections, one of which came close to unseating the new Premier of New South Wales, have sent a clear message to Canberra that, for the first time, a government led by Mr Bob Hawke is in serious trouble with the electorate.

The outcome is being attributed to Australia's grim economic outlook and the expectation that the federal Budget, to be announced in two weeks, will be the toughest since the war.

Voting in what should have been two of the safest seats in New South Wales registered a swing of between 13 and 18 per cent against Labor.

Mr Barrie Unsworth, who was seeking election to the lower house of the NSW Parliament to validate his nomination as state Premier, in succession to Mr Neville Wran, should still scrape home, although it may be by as few as 100 votes.

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Bush tight-lipped in Egypt

Cairo (Reuters) — The US Vice-President, Mr George Bush, yesterday disappointed Egyptian by refusing to make any commitment on its request for a restructuring of American economic aid.

Mr Bush said he was not in a position to make any commitments "on these different problems at this point", after a 2½-hour meeting with President Mubarak.

Cairo has asked Washington to grant relief on outstanding interest payments on its \$4.5 billion (£3 billion) military debt, shift funds to cash assistance from project aid, and back a planned bid for help from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Egypt's economy has been dealt a severe blow by the combination of declining world oil prices and a sharp reduction in tourism, as a result of travellers' fears about terrorism in the region.

Mr Bush said he was sympathetic towards Egypt's requests and would "continue to work very closely with Egypt". But he did not offer specific suggestions.

Mr Bush told Mr Mubarak that "Washington's ability to help Egypt was constrained by 'inordinately complicated budgetary times of our own'".

Asked specifically about Egypt's request for help from the IMF, from which it plans to seek balance of payments support, Mr Bush said the US did not have a sole voice in the Fund's affairs.

Peres proposes votes in Jordan for Palestinians

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Mr Shimon Peres said yesterday that the influence of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) could be broken by direct elections for representatives from the occupied territories to the Jordanian assembly.

He told the Knesset's foreign affairs and defence committee that he had put the idea to Mrs Margaret Thatcher during her visit to Israel in May, when she made a special trip to allow elections for mayors in the occupied territories.

Her suggestion was rejected by Mr Yitzhak Rabin, who as Defence Minister is in charge of administering the territories. He argued that the PLO would terrify voters into choosing its candidates.

Mr Peres now says that he suggested that elections to the Jordanian Parliament could overcome this problem, since the PLO would not be able to exert the same kind of influence on national elections.

On Sunday Mr Peres told moderate Palestinians from the territories that he was ready to widen the authority of the Arab municipalities and to appoint Arab mayors for all Arab towns.

Israel was also prepared to discuss ways of development in a variety of fields from economics, health, education and banking. "The decision is in your hands," he told them.

He met the Palestinians to honour a promise he gave to King Hassan of Morocco to open a dialogue with people from the territories.

In explaining his idea for direct elections to the Jordanian Parliament at this time, Mr Peres appears to be trying to help King Hussein to find the alternative Palestinian leadership he has been seeking unsuccessfully since he broke off political operation with the PLO leadership in February.

Israeli officials said there was no link to news on Sunday that relatives of Mr Anatoly Shecharansky, the former Soviet dissident, had received permission from Moscow to join him in Israel.

They were unable to confirm a statement by a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman in Moscow that the group would move to Tel Aviv after preparatory talks in Helsinki. The Finnish Embassy in Tel Aviv now represents Russian interests in Israel.

Leading article, page 11

Two die in Beirut cafe bombing

From Juan Carlos Guncocio Beirut

An explosion near a cafe in Christian east Beirut yesterday killed two people and wounded 13 in the latest attack against civilians in the Lebanese capital. No group claimed responsibility for the bombing, which devastated a two-storey house in the predominantly Armenian district of Bourj Hammoud.

It was the fourth bombing in east Beirut in four days. The explosions followed two big car bomb attacks which killed 57 people and injured more than 300. The latest bombing came amid intense debate over a proposal by President Amin Gemayel to hold a joint emergency session of Parliament and the Cabinet to discuss political reforms aimed at ending the civil war.

The Christian President's initiative was accompanied by friendly overtures to Syria for the first time since he vetoed a Syrian-sponsored peace agreement in January.

The Prime Minister, Mr Rashid Karami, a Sunni Muslim, has indirectly rejected the idea, saying a special committee consisting of six representatives of Lebanon's main sects should be formed before any parliamentary session. The committee would be given a month to draft a plan to end the 11-year-old conflict.

As expected, Lebanon's Syrian-backed Muslim leaders, who have increased political and military pressure to bring the Gemayel Government down, dismissed the proposal.

Mr Nabih Berri, leader of the Shia Muslim Amal militia, described it as a "trap", while Mr Walid Jumblatt, the Druze leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, predicted more violence, and urged his fighters to stand on the alert and declared: "The war is not over yet... our enemies will jump on us once they have the chance."

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Hindus and Sikhs bury hostility in friendship march

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

In a demonstration of brotherly affection belied by recent events, Hindus and Sikhs linked arms yesterday to march through the streets of the west Delhi suburb of Tilak Nagar, to show their curious neighbours that the two communities can get on with each other.

The evidence to the contrary had come a week ago when mobs of Hindus, screaming for revenge after the murder of 15 innocent bus passengers in Punjab, burnt Sikh property and attacked individual Sikhs.

The Sikhs of the area responded with a few gangs of their own, and a number of Hindus who innocently wandered into the conflict were stabbed to death.

Tilak Nagar is (perhaps appropriately) named after one of the early extremists of the freedom struggle against the British. Bal Gangadhar Tilak, who was a Maharashtrian Brahmin. He sought inspiration in Hindu orthodoxy, and resisted health precaution measures during Bombay's plague crisis in 1897.

He was sent to jail for incitement to violence in 1908, after failing to capture the Congress Party from the moderates.

After his release he played his politics more carefully and, in alliance with Mrs Annie Besant and indeed the Muslim League, took over the Congress from the moderates, who played a considerably less significant role from then on.

Today's extremists were quiet in Tilak Nagar, however, and the march, perhaps 200 strong, was led through the narrow commercial streets and the broad highways which divide the suburb and link it with the city.

At the head of the procession was Choudhury Bharat Singh, the local MP for outer Delhi. "We did not want a whole bunch of politicians along," one of the organizers said. There were no slogans chanted, and only one banner, which is hugely restrained for an Indian procession.

They marched mostly in silence, watched from the roadsides and from the rooftops by crowds who a week earlier had either been sheltering in panic or rampaging through the same streets themselves. The population of Tilak Nagar is equally divided between the two communities.

"This was not a flamboyant demonstration," the organizer said. "We shall have a much more flamboyant one on Sunday."

Tilak Nagar was under curfew again last night after 13 hours of freedom. And even that freedom was closely watched by paramilitary policemen armed to the teeth, lounging obtrusively.

The police said that they were retaining the curfew for two reasons: one, to help people feel more secure at night, and two, as a kind of collective punishment. "Next time the traders who are suffering with the curfew might stop the hooligans, or might hand them over to us," a senior policeman said.

Locust threat to Africa spreads

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Locust swarms are now building up in eastern, central, western and southern Africa, threatening vast areas of productive land, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization warned here yesterday.

Substantial assistance will be needed for several years if the present threat cannot be quickly controlled, the FAO adds.

For the present, the most serious situation is in Botswana, Sudan, Chad and Mali. But many other countries could soon face a crisis.

In Botswana, up to 250,000 acres are affected by egg-laying by the brown locust, one of several species now swarming in unprecedented numbers. The report says the plague could last up to five years and menace crops in Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Namibia and probably Angola.

Further north, a plague of red locusts is affecting Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia and eastern Zaire. The risk of further breeding will increase with the onset of the September rains.

Swarms of the African migratory locust have been sighted in central, eastern and south Sudan and in Ethiopia. In West Africa the Senegalese grasshopper has been hatching in unprecedented numbers.

All countries are relying heavily on international assistance to finance aerial spraying and other measures to counteract the locusts.

The FAO says millions of acres are threatened. This is the first time since the 1920s that so many different locust species have simultaneously threatened African farmland.

Experts say the return of the rains last year, after disastrous droughts, created ideal conditions for the development of locust infestations.

Saudis warn Iran against aggression

Bahrain (Reuters) — Saudi Arabia, reacting to what an official source termed repeated Iranian threats to the kingdom and Kuwait, has said it will confront any aggression against it or its Gulf allies.

The official Saudi Press Agency quoted an official source on Sunday night as saying: "We regret what Iranian media have attributed to some Iranian officials and the repeated threats to Saudi Arabia and its sister state of Kuwait."

"Although Saudi Arabia is a peace pioneer and avoids involvement in military conflicts, it will immediately exercise its legitimate right of self-defence with all its potential if faced with an aggression against it or any of its sister countries."

In a newspaper article last week, the Speaker of the Iranian Parliament, Hojatoleslam Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, threatened that Iran would attack Saudi Arabia, Kuwait or any other Gulf country which gave Iraq money to buy arms.

TEHRAN: Ayatollah Khomeini has appointed Colonel Hossein Hassani-Saadi, a former operational commander on the southern Gulf war front, to command Iraqi ground forces.

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SPECTRUM

Leningrad comes to Lugano

An ornate Swiss villa is the unlikely venue for a unique cultural exchange with Russia. Geraldine Norman meets the millionaire who has persuaded the iron curtain to part

Flowers cascade from ornamental vases where the blue lake laps the garden wall of the Villa Favorita, occasional home of Baron Heinrich Thyssen-Bornemisza, his wives and families. The acceptable face of capitalism smiles from the tax haven of Swiss Lugano at the hurly burly of Italy on the further shore. It is this unlikely setting that the Soviet Union has chosen for its first experiments in artistic exchanges with the West.

Thyssen, 63, is the linchpin of an international industrial empire and is reputed to be one of the richest men in the world. He is also an ardent art collector. This summer, the paneled dining room of his magnificent 18th-century villa and its adjacent salons have been stripped of their furnishings. Grey carpeting protects the parquet floors while Milanese designed glass showcases are lined with military precision across the rooms, displaying gold, silver and jewels commissioned by the tsars and pre-revolution upper crust.

They have been entrusted to the baron's care by the Soviet Union's Minister of Culture and come from the Hermitage in Leningrad, most of them from hitherto unransacked cupboards in its storerooms. The large boat-shaped emerald with gold and enamel masts and a white enamel sail was made as a pendant jewel in Spain around 1580. It was transferred from the Winter Palace to the Hermitage in 1918. A rococo Augsburg tabernacle, three feet high, is an explosion of gilt and silver saints, angels, ladders, drapery, clouds and rockwork and was given to the Alexander Nevsky Monastery in 1750. It found its way to the Hermitage as a result of the Soviet suppression of religion.

The silver group of a killed Scotsman, stag and hounds is a replica of the Ascot Royal Hunt Cup of 1847, commissioned in London from John Samuel Hunt by Tsar Nicholas I. Russian treasures include gold and enamel pendants of the 12th century, a

solid gold salt-cellar of around 1820 and plenty of Fabergé.

Equivalent treasures from the baron's collection will be exhibited in Leningrad and Moscow this autumn. It is already the second exchange of exhibitions between Baron Thyssen and the Soviet Union, and the contract is signed for next year's exchange of Impressionists against Old Masters.

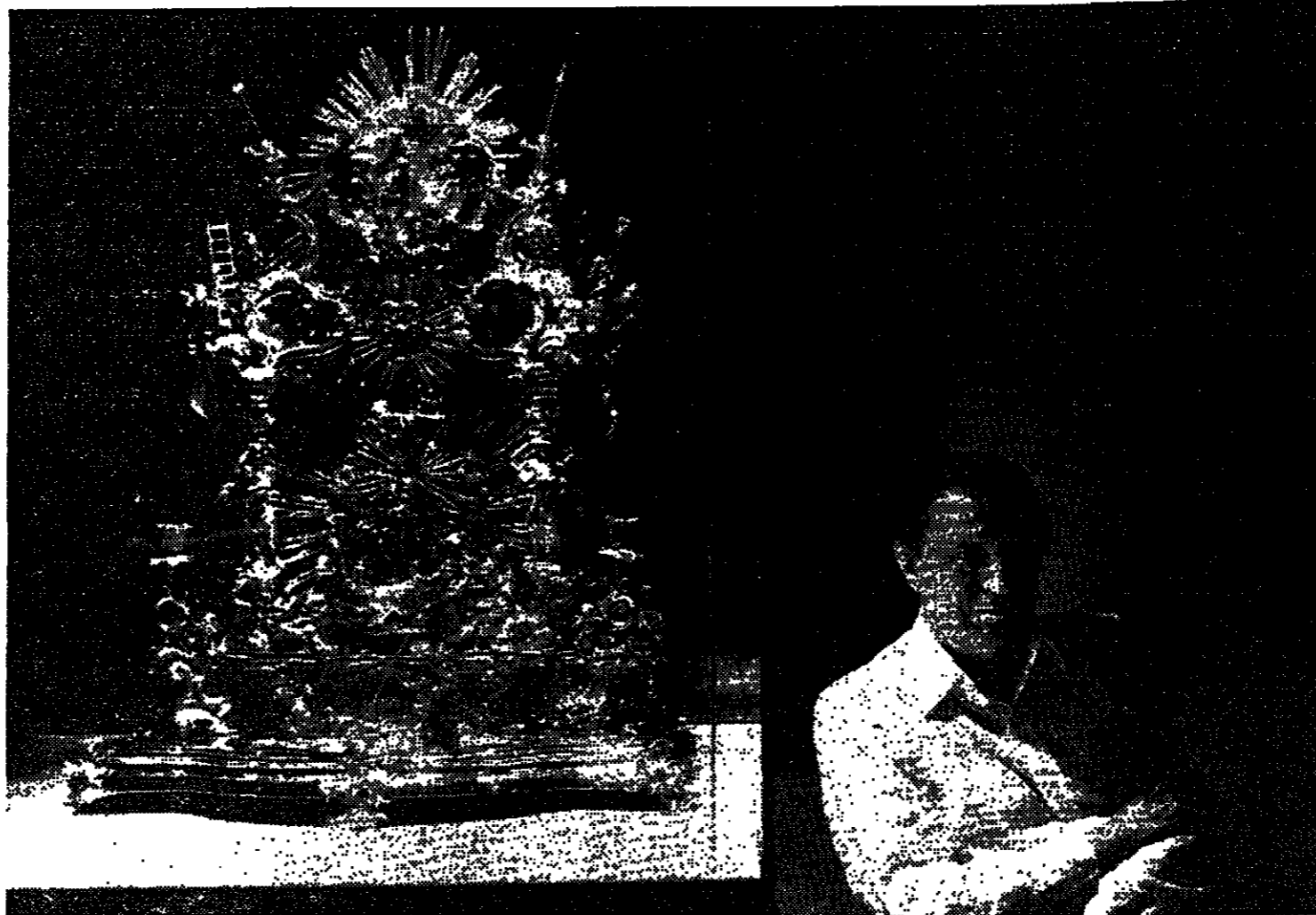
The baron concedes that these artistic exchanges between a socialist super-power and a western super-capitalist are an unlikely development. "But it is easier for them to do a deal with an individual", he explains. "A deal with a country may have strings attached about freeing Jews or old financial squabbles."

Besides, the baron is used to doing complicated and difficult deals with streamlined opportunism. That is how he has built his industrial empire from the ruins of family endeavours demolished or confiscated during the Second World War.

The family fortune was founded by his grandfather, August Thyssen, who provided the iron and steel required by the Kaiser for armaments during the Great War. His father turned the fortune to artistic account by forming a superlative collection of Old Master paintings, buying the villa in Lugano and building on to it an art gallery to house his pictures.

The present baron has added a collection of modern pictures, from 1870 to the present, a collection of American paintings, collections of silver and jewels, carpets and decorative arts and further Old Master paintings, when and where the opportunity arose.

The two Charidins that he bought from Edmond de Rothschild, hang opposite the desk in his study. On another wall is a Caspar David Friedrich he found in England, successfully bargaining a two-year loan to the National Gallery against an export licence. The collection contains 1,400 pictures, 600 of them Old Masters, and is



Treasure hunter: Baron Thyssen-Bornemisza in his Lugano villa with the gilt rococo Augsburg tabernacle he found in a Hermitage storeroom

constantly on loan to exhibitions round the world.

It is a nice irony that the baron's first links with the Soviet Union sprang from his interest in avant-garde Russian painting of around 1900, which is still considered subversive and is not shown in Russian museums. The baron's chief supplier was Antonina Gmurzynska in Cologne, a well-connected Pole.

In January, 1983, she gave a dinner party at which the baron met the Russian ambassador to Western Germany, Vladimir Semionov. "I think he asked her to invite me", the baron murmurs with a smile.

An exhibition of the baron's Old Masters was touring American museums at the time. "If you don't you lend to Russia?" Semionov asked him. A flat refusal was converted to an intrigued affirmative one month later when Semionov rang the baron to propose that a Soviet picture of equal calibre would be exchanged for every Old Master included in the loan exhibition.

Semionov told the baron that the project had "the unanimous approval of the Politburo, including Brezhnev, Andropov... the lot". Certainly the speed and efficiency with which the deal was put together seemed to indicate a directive from the top. The first

approach was in January and the exhibition opened in June.

The baron asked for an exchange exhibition of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist paintings from the famous pre-revolutionary collections of Morozov and Shchukin, now divided between the Hermitage Museum in Leningrad and the Pushkin Museum in Moscow. He dispatched his curator, Simon de Pury, and his son, Lorne, to reconnoitre the possibilities.

With a preliminary wish list in hand, he flew into Moscow in March 1983 in his private jet, since air traffic over the Soviet Union is controlled in the Russian language, a Soviet pilot was sent to St Moritz to collect him. The procedure has been repeated for each of his many subsequent visits.

He refuses to lend his pictures to any town where he is not allowed to fly in his own jet. Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev have all received him but Novosibirsk was deleted from the schedule when landing permission was refused. "I get a reception worthy of a head of state", he laughs. "There's a delegation of dignitaries to meet me, and flowers, and the largest car they manufacture to sweep me into town."

The enormous success of the first exchange in 1983 - 300,000 people viewed the Impressionists in Lugano while more than a million Russians queued to view the baron's Old Masters - led to plans

for a bigger and better exchange of pictures this year. The other half of the Morozov and Shchukin collections were to be exchanged against better Old Masters from Lugano.

The project was torpedoed by the Reagan-Gorbachev summit last November. The agreement on cultural exchanges led to the loan of Soviet Impressionists, seen in Lugano in 1983, to the National Gallery in Washington. The Soviet Union could not send the other half of its Impressionist collection abroad at the same time. The exchange exhibitions of gold, silver and jewels were substituted.

The selection in this case was more of a mystery tour, since the Hermitage has no catalogue. The baron, his curator and an expert from the Victoria and Albert Museum spent three days exploring the Hermitage storerooms. Eighty per cent of the pieces have never been exhibited in Russia. The silver had not been cleaned since the revolution and was uniformly black. There was a nasty hiccup when the Soviets refused to clean it, but they relented.

The handsome illustrated catalogues are a gift from the baron to the Russian people. The entries were written in Russian by the Hermitage experts, who also supplied the photographs - on condition that the baron sent them films for their cameras from London. The Lugano staff saw to the translation and the printing. Inspired by the exchange with

Russia, the baron organized an exchange of Old Master exhibitions with Hungary last year. Hints are now reaching him from East Germany that the authorities would look favourably on an exchange of pictures with Dresden.

The second exchange of pictures with Russia, delayed this year, is to go ahead in 1987 and negotiations have begun for an exchange of 20th century avant-garde art which would bring the subversive abstracts of the Constructivist generation out of the cellars of Russian museums for their first airing at the lakeside villa in Lugano.

There are inconveniences to dealing with the Soviet Union. In the course of negotiating the two exhibitions the Soviets have not answered a single letter. All communications are conducted by telephone or telex. Then the Soviets insist on sending their exhibits to the West in Soviet aircraft. Ten days before the opening of the Impressionist exhibition, Aeroflot announced that no planes were available. A telex from the baron threatening to cancel his own show in Russia brought Aeroflot to heel.

Capitalist tactics can work miracles, and Baron Thyssen-Bornemisza is working miracles in Lugano.

The exhibition of Russian treasures at the Villa Favorita in Lugano continues until November.

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: CLASSICS

Illusion in Greek tragedy

Dr Simon Goldhill's important book *Language, Sexuality, Narrative: The Oresteia*, in which the famous Aeschylus trilogy is analysed from a "post-structuralist" viewpoint, is provoking considerable controversy, not least from Dr John Moles, reviewing it in the *Liverpool Classical Monthly*. The meaning of a text, according to Dr Goldhill, is always illusive, as the text is an "unstable verbal object", language being "language rather than a transparent veil through which we pass to 'meaning'". He is right to emphasize "the complexity and difficulty of reading the *Oresteia*", and to open our eyes to its ambiguities.

Novel discoveries

Our knowledge of the Greek and Roman novel has been advanced by the discovery of papyrus fragments of "new" novels, one of which, *Merochus and Parthenope*, turns out to be the source of a fragmentarily preserved 11th-century Persian romance, *Yamiq and 'Adhr*.

A preliminary and limited comparison of the two texts has been published by Professor Tomas Hagg of Bergen.

Roman birthday

Remarkable for its historical and human interest is a collection of about 340 fragmentary wooden writing tablets discovered last summer at *Vindolanda*, a Roman fort on Hadrian's Wall. The tablets include a military intelligence report concerning the natives, who are contemptuously and uniquely called *Britanniculi* or "Britlets"; a line of *Virgil's Aeneid* apparently inscribed as a handwriting exercise; and a letter in which one lady invites another to her birthday party.

Martin F. Smith

The author is Professor of Classics, University College of North Wales, Bangor.

"Kids these days don't know how lucky they are!"

Bradford, 10 March 1985.



The picture above was taken last year in Bradford.

It was not set up or reconstructed. We simply asked our photographer to record what he found in the cities of Britain.

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PHOTO: MARK POWELL

Out of the cold, into the fire

How a Chilean in exile braved the wrath of Pinochet to film the plight of his country

Miguel Littin is a Chilean political exile who dared to go back - and, in the process, left that most sanguine of Latin American tyrants, General Augusto Pinochet, with a figurative bloody nose.

In recent years Pinochet has allowed some Chileans who fled or were forcibly expelled after the military coup in 1973 to return home. Of an estimated 30,000 exiles that still remain in the rest of Latin America, Europe and the United States, 5,000 figure on a blacklist of political "undesirables", whose return is strictly forbidden and who are well advised to stay away.

Littin's name is prominent at the top of the blacklist. One of Latin America's most respected film directors, and a friend and supporter of President Salvador Allende, who died during the coup which overthrew his socialist government, Littin was a high-profile public figure in Chile. The military kicked him out within weeks of seizing power.

Yet early last year - heavily disguised with a false identity, passport, accent and "wife" - he slipped back into Chile after 12 years' absence. Six weeks later he came out with more than 23,000 feet of film shot on location throughout the country, including a sequence filmed under Pinochet's very nose inside his Moneda presidential palace. That footage has now been edited into two films - a four-hour TV documentary and a two-hour cinema film - which will soon be shown to international audiences and will surely add to the mounting clamour for the restoration of democracy in Chile.

So, too, will a new book just published in Latin America. *Miguel Littin's Adventure - Undercover in Chile*, ghost-written by the Colombian novelist and Nobel literature laureate Gabriel Garcia Marquez. Based on 18 hours of tape-recorded conversations, it is a devastating indictment of the Pinochet regime - both of its brutal repression of Chile's people and of the widespread poverty



Littin filming in Chile 1985, and (inset) in Bogotá, 1986

created by the junta's style of economics.

But on another level the book is a fast-moving, nail-biting political thriller. For his most dangerous mission, Littin, 44, had to assume a completely different identity. His beard was shaved off, his longish hair cut short. A bulky man, he shed considerable weight. His normal casual clothing was replaced with elegant suits. He also had to suppress the strong guttural tones of his native rural Chile, as well as memorizing a detailed cover story about his fictional home and life in Montevideo. When he flew to Chile he was accompanied by an attractive young Chilean woman who posed as his wife.

His landing at Santiago's airport coincided with the arrival of three European film crews - Italian, French and Dutch - at different entry points. Each unaware of the others' existence, they entered Chile legally, the authorities having approved their work visas for seemingly innocent projects. Littin coordinated the work of each crew separately in producing a filmed expose of the regime.

Littin's adventure often seems like a thriller set behind the Iron Curtain. Radios were turned up full blast in hotel rooms to jam possible bugging devices and code words and

elaborate arrangements were employed to make contact with the resistance.

The most poignant episode in Littin's odyssey came during a visit to the Pacific coastal home of the great love poet and Nobel literature prize-winner Pablo Neruda, who died a few days after the coup.

His friends say he died of a broken heart because of the military takeover.

Neruda's home has become a shrine for opponents of the regime. On its walls are scrawled messages - "Juan and Rosa love each other through Pablo" - "Thank you, Pablo for teaching us to love" - left by lovers who were mere children in 1973.

Littin was constantly impressed and heartened by the presence of young people, with no personal memory of either Allende or Neruda, in the vanguard of the struggle for democracy.

So successful was Littin's disguise that he and the Italian crew even managed to bluff their way into the Moneda palace, where filming was briefly disturbed by a commotion as Pinochet strode by on the way to his office.

Having escaped on a commercial flight, Littin sees no early end to his exile. His only hope is that, at 70, Pinochet is unlikely to survive as long as Franco did in Spain, the regime on which the Chilean dictator seems to have modelled his own. But as Littin observes: "It is not only we who live abroad who are in exile. The population of Chile itself is in exile, for they live in an occupied country."

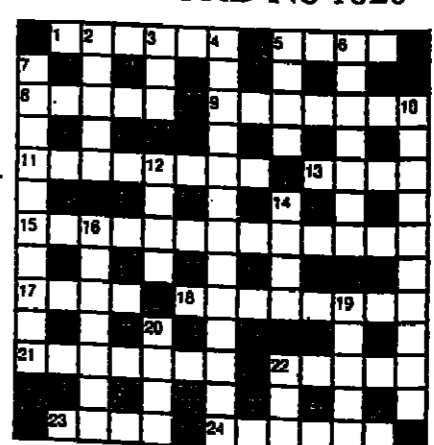
Geoffrey Matthews

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CONCISE CROSSWORD No 1020

- ACROSS
1 Clergy man (6)
5 Illegal drug (4)
8 Worth (5)
9 Jumpy (7)
11 Roundabout (8)
13 Steady (4)
15 "Les Parapluies" art. (7)
17 Notwithstanding (4)
18 Birthmarks (8)
21 Hunting call (5,2)
22 Yet (5)
23 On an occasion (4)
24 Faculties (6)

- DOWN
2 Sensational (5)
3 Nonsense (3)
4 Panstalking (1,3)
6 Challenge (4)
7 In two minds (10)
10 Forward roll (10)



- 12 Ruddy (4)
14 Wozzek composer (4)
16 Mischievous imp (7)
19 Out of mind (5)
20 Cremation pile (4)
22 Solar system centre (3)

SOLUTION TO 1019
ACROSS: 1 Albion 4 Senator 8 Rowan 9 Amenity 10 Bulwarks 11 Blah 13 Nationality 17 Rome 18 Shutters 21 Patcher 22 Optic 23 Strange 24 Meese
DOWN: 2 Aerobe 3 Borel 3 Mandarin 4 Stalking-horse 5 Noel 6 the 7 Rhythm 12 Platform 14 Ammeter 15 Grooves 16 Psy-

FASHION by Suzy Menkes

Playing to the gallery

YVES SAINT LAURENT at 50 is the undisputed king of Paris couture. His 30-year reign is being celebrated in France at two exhibitions. Last week's show was chic, no shocks, surprisingly sensual

CHRISTIAN LACROIX, 35, is the rising star of Paris couture. He has just been paid the ultimate compliment of being compared to a young Saint Laurent and has revived the trapeze line which Yves launched in 1958



Yves Saint Laurent's sensual evening line: a rounded, low-cut velvet bodice, off the shoulders, teamed with a slim-fitting fine wool skirt



Left: Saint Laurent's trapeze-line dress, autumn/winter 1958-9 for Dior
Right: Lacroix autumn/winter 1986, grey flannel trapeze-line suit

Last Friday, Yves Saint Laurent celebrated his fiftieth birthday at a very private party. "I wanted to be with just my really intimate friends", explained the most Garboesque of fashion designers.

The party, given by his close friend and business partner Pierre Bergé, was more than a rite of passage for Saint Laurent's half-century. It was a loyal recognition by his close-knit "family" of colleagues of this shy, frail man's unprecedented achievements. It was also a warm-hearted celebration of an extraordinary year.

In the spring of 1985, President Mitterrand personally invested Yves Saint Laurent with the Légion d'Honneur. At the same time Yves broke through the bamboo curtain to mount an exhibition of his work in Peking. In October he received a fashion Oscar for his contribution to French fashion. This summer, a testament to his art was unveiled on six floors of the new costume museum in the Rue de Rivoli. Next door, the Musée des Arts Décoratifs is showing Saint Laurent's work for the theatre in a joyous and colourful display of costumes and sketches.

Last Wednesday, Yves celebrated his birthday with the only thing he really cares about — a couture collection that was fresh, frolicsome and surprisingly sexy. While the rest of Paris strains to rejuvenate haute couture, Saint Laurent sent out a parade of sinuous models undulating down the catwalk in sensuous sueded and satin, safari jackets lapped in fur, satin as soft as lingerie draped seamlessly across the body, plunging at front and back.

"This wasn't me in a classic mood, was it?" Saint Laurent said. "I was being deliberately

provocative." For a man who Wants To Be Alone, he has a very roguish grin.

In the world of Paris haute couture, Yves Saint Laurent stands alone as king of kings. The anguish of creation may have haunted him ever since he suffered a nervous breakdown during military service at the age of 24. He was then already a major fashion star, having taken over from Christian Dior after his death. He was, in the famous words of Pierre Bergé, "born with a nervous breakdown".

Paloma Picasso, one of Yves's few close friends, spoke to me last week of his burden of responsibility at supporting his mighty fashion empire: 3,000 staff; 189 boutiques; the unstoppable treadmill of the collections — four women's wear, two menswear, and make-up, fragrance, bags, shoes, furs, even cigarettes selling on his name. This dissemination of commercial goods from the fountainhead of couture is what the Paris collections have been about for the last 25 years. Saint Laurent himself has made his great fashion statements within the couture framework.

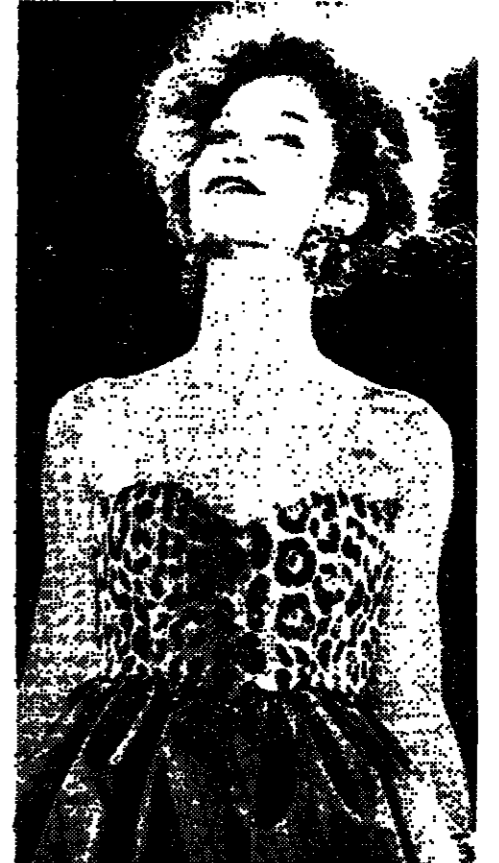
For most of the Paris houses — and not least Chanel — it has been a case of great names in search of a designer. It is the greatest compliment to Yves Saint Laurent that the most interesting new designer to surface on the crest of the new couture is inspired by the Master.

Christian Lacroix is aged 35 and a designer for the old established house of Jean Patou. Last season I voted him couture's coveted Golden Thimble Award. This season he amply repaid me with a splendid collection, full of *jolie de vivre* and based on the trapeze line upon which Yves Saint Laurent built his fashion reputation 28 years ago.

Lacroix redrew the fashionable silhouette by inverting its triangle. Instead of broad shoulders and narrow hips, there were neat bolero jackets and flaring panelled skirts cut, in his own words, like an "umbrella". Up goes the waist to empire line, out go the skirts with a baby doll swing, and the taffeta that was the star fabric of the Paris season is wired out into a fan-shaped hemline.

"It is not supposed to look retro", Lacroix told me nervously. Indeed it does not. The house of Patou admits that this is not a selling collection. The models looked at the same time innocent and provocative, as though they were dressing up in their mothers' clothes, but adding a twist of their own: the skirts shorter and tighter than they would have been in the early 1960s, and the paisley motifs embroidered on a tweed

blazer creating a cocktail of different decades. The Yves Saint Laurent exhibition shows the cross-fertilization of design ideas. It starts, as Yves did, with Dior, where Saint Laurent made a black velvet dress with a grey satin bow that looks totally contemporary. Although the display is chronological, the clothes are also grouped so we see influences of fine art on fashion from Mondrian-inspired geometric



Left: Saint Laurent 1986, panther-printed sash with front-laced bodice
Right: Lacroix 1986, leopard-print heart-shaped strapless bodice

dress of the 1960s to the Picasso patchworks. There are exotic ideas: a lattice-work of African beading for outrageous bare-midriffed dresses; Spanish bullfighter embroideries; the Ballet Russe collection that exploded in fireworks of colours in the 1970s.

Creative imagination is daunting. I found the Saint Laurent accessories — tasselled belts, gloves with sculpted fingers, jewelled

crosses and moulded breast-plates — as extraordinary as the theatre drawings, which include predatory plumes for Zizi Jeanmaire at the Casino and lyrical costumes for *The Marriage of Figaro*. Saint Laurent in his early days made garments as wild and unwearable as Christian Lacroix's look now. Yves shocked the establishment profoundly with his see-through chiffon blouses showing the breasts, and his Carmen Miranda collection which made the back of a little black 1940s dress as an insert of chantilly lace that revealed the posterior cleavage. Who would have believed then that designs which seemed to be playing to the gallery would one day end up in it?

Yves Saint Laurent, 28 *Années de Création, Musée des Arts de la Mode, Paris until October 26.*

Photographs by Harry Kerr

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The new look Chanel

Karl Lagerfeld went over the top (or should that be bottom?) in his new collection for Chanel. There were some fine ideas, especially the unlined jackets that made the traditional Chanel suits look light and gentle. A new jacket, waisted like a riding coat, flat-pleated at the back, was not Chanel but it was *magnifique*. So were the same pleats used for a slim cocktail dress, bloused gently into the waist in white chiffon banded with black velvet.

But the New Look Chanel, with frou-frou of net petticoats pushing up layers of chantilly lace, looked old hat, while Karl's actual hats — Edwardian confections of giant abstract bows — were young and fun.

This uneven collection suggested that Lagerfeld is trying too hard to shock Chanel traditionalists, by imposing skirts that cling to the *derrière* on the basic suit and making house muse Inès de la Fressange parade in a mini dress lashed with bondage chains.

Emanuel Ungaro dedicated his collection to Cristóbal Balenciaga. This inspiration was a happy marriage between couture in the grand manner and Ungaro's distinctive use of colour and form.

Bilows of taffeta were trapped round the hips of slender dresses, made into capes over columns of white satin or were caught into a band at the knees. Ungaro, who worked as Balenciaga's apprentice for six years, was able to make this collection more than a homage, for sunray-coated skirts and ankle-length coats over soft trousers loosened up the body-hugging Ungaro silhouette in a thoroughly modern way.



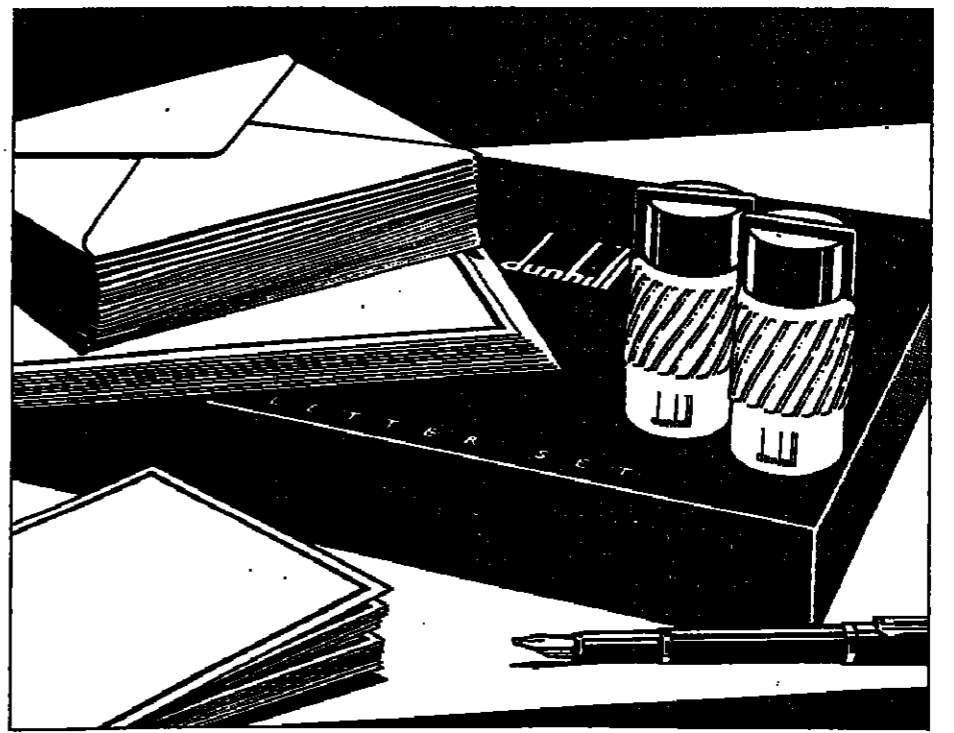
Inès de la Fressange in Karl Lagerfeld's stretch lacquered sheath banded with Chanel chains

Paul Poiret, French fashion's high priest of the exotic, has been called to the gallery of fame. Poiret — he of the lampshade dresses, harem pants and oriental turbans and fabrics — is on show in Paris, partnered by one of his three sisters, art deco designer Nicole Groult. The Poiret clothes are less intriguing than the context in which they are shown for his fashion heyday coincided with the finest fashion illustrators. An entire section of the exhibition is devoted to the *Gazette du Bon Ton*, which gave its fashions a social setting.

A brooding moustachioed husband watches jealously as a young lover kisses the hand held out in the silken sleeve of a low-waisted 1920's dress. George Barbier treats the clothes like theatrical costumes against a painted backdrop. This must have appealed to Poiret, whose own Bacchanalian fancy dress outfit in white chiffon draped with grapes is on display. Poiret worked with Dufy's fruit and flower prints. His dresses were photographed by Man Ray. But Lepape best captures, in his languorous drawing of harem pants against silken cushions, the exotic mood of Poiret's clothes.

Paul Poiret et Nicole Groult at the Palais Galliera, Paris, until October 12.

AN EXCLUSIVE GIFT FROM HARRODS.



This elegant letter set and a personal analysis of your handwriting are complimentary with two or more purchases from the Dunhill Edition range. Offer ends August 16th.



Israeli offence

The reputation of Florencio Campomanes, the controversial president of the International Chess Federation (Fide), comes under further attack today. He will be asked at a press conference about allegations of racism levelled at Fide by the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, the American institute devoted to the study of anti-semitism. In a text sent to Campomanes last month, the centre's Rabbi Abraham Cooper expressed shock at Fide's "racist and purely political" choice of Dubai as venue for the 1986 Chess Olympiad this winter. This, because of the ban on Israelis entering Arab countries, will exclude Israeli competitors. Chess-watchers who believe Campomanes was elected to the presidency in 1982 by swigging the 10-block Arab vote will ask whether he promised the Arabs an Israeli-free Olympiad. Although he had agreed to discuss the matter with me, last night Campomanes proved unavailable.

● Pavement artists in Edinburgh were in the end undaunted by the absence of top athletes from the Commonwealth Games. They drew portraits of Sir Geoffrey Howe instead.

In camera

Eye-witnesses to the shooting of President Kennedy were secretly flown to London Weekend's South Bank studios last month for a bizarre TV "trial" of Lee Harvey Oswald. An empty chair stood in the dock of LWT's version of a Dallas court room while two American attorneys fought "like dogs" to clear or damn his name. The lawyers, Vincent Bugliosi, who prosecuted Charles Manson, and Gerry Spence, who took on the American nuclear industry in the Karen Silkwood case, questioned eye-witnesses, medical and ballistic experts, some of whom had not even appeared before the Warren Commission. The programme, made in co-operation with the American cable network Showtime, will be shown over six hours on Channel 4 this autumn. Two verdict scenes have been shot, but only executive producer Richard Druett knows the result of the secret ballot by which the jury of imported Dallas citizens voted.

BARRY FANTONI



First it's TVs, then it's cars, now it's Japanese sanctions

Pony express

Yesterday, the Central Transport Consultative Committee accused British Rail of cost-cutting at the expense of passengers. Now I wouldn't call BR skinflints. After discovering last week that they were spending up to £20,000 on badger-crossings on the East Grinstead line, I learn that they have stumped up £5,000 from their "environmental improvement" fund for a project with West Midlands Arts. The fruits of the £10,250 enterprise will be 12 life-sized sculptures of horses, placed along the Birmingham to Wolverhampton line. Artist Kevin Atherton's iron horses are a visual pun, even though they are actually made of steel. There's been nothing like it since Milton Keynes got its concrete cow.

Improvident

The Northern Ireland Industrial Development Board may be regretting shifting its PR account to image builders Burson-Marsteller in London. In Belfast the Provisional IRA are known as "Provs", rather than "Provos". Last week Burson-Marsteller's account executive made a "getting to know you" visit to Belfast. Her name is Victoria Provis.

Danger signal

Shock news for unconstructed Thomas the Tank Engine devotees: the Fat Clergyman's collection of railway memorabilia may be split up. The Rev. Teddy Boston, inspiration for the Fat Clergyman in the anthropomorphic tales of steam trains written by his friend, the Rev. W. Awdry, died this spring. A fellow puffer fan, he had built up a collection of railway relics, including a traction engine called Fieri Elias, and a road-roller called Thisledown, in the garden of his rectory in Cadeby, near Market Bosworth, Leicestershire. But with Boston's death there are plans to merge his parish, which could result in selling the rectory and the dispersal of the collection. His widow, Audrey, still waiting to hear if she can stay in the rectory, says that she is determined to keep the collection — which is currently open to the public on the second Saturday of every month — together. Awdry says he backs her to the pistons.

PHS



The realities of sanctions

Michael Spicer describes the international options as seen from South Africa

The leaders of the seven Commonwealth countries now in London have before them a menu of actions that can be taken against South Africa. They can select from the Nassau Summit "further measures", the June EEC head of government "additional measures" and the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee June 31 proposals. While it is not certain that the mini-summit will agree on a selection — a full Commonwealth summit within a few weeks being a distinct possibility — the elapse of European and American deadlines in the next few weeks makes a decision by the beginning of October a certainty.

Serious attempts to co-ordinate measures between the allies will probably lead to a lowest common denominator approach, given the diversity of involvement in South Africa. That has certainly been the experience within the EEC. The assumption is that Pretoria will not be moved within the next few weeks to take the steps which the international community now deems the irreducible minimum for averting international action: the release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners, the unbanning of the ANC and other proscribed organizations and the commencement of political negotiations between Pretoria and legitimate black leaders.

Few observers in South Africa believe that Pretoria will take even the first of these steps in the foreseeable future. Though the South African government hardly deserves sympathy for a dilemma of its own making, the fact remains that compliance with such demands would encourage a perception of weakness, politically impossible for any government to contemplate except *in extremis* — a position in which Pretoria does not yet find itself.

Unsurprisingly, the international uproar over sanctions has helped to erode the middle ground among the whites and has allowed Pretoria to shift attention from its domestic difficulties to an external focus. Even South African big business — caught between an increasingly implacable government and an international community urging it to "force Pretoria to heed its demands" — has turned aside from macro-political issues to the goal of getting its own house in order. An assessment of the economic

and political impact on South Africa of any action taken against it must also take into account the assumption that a package will receive not only Commonwealth support, but also much broader international backing.

Past experience leads one to expect widespread evasion of almost all the measures. The position of the front-line states — which all agree will have to be exempt from the application of measures — will both determine the sanctions chosen and provide loopholes for South African evasion. Neither Taiwan nor Switzerland are members of the UN, and both are key trading partners of South Africa. They are unlikely to adhere fully to sanctions. Comecon countries, too, may be expected to evade sanctions, and the role of Far Eastern countries in the Rhodesian saga might be taken as a guide to their likely actions in this case.

One might include, on a list of major options, a ban on new investment in South Africa; restriction or ending of landing rights for South African Airways; the imposition of visa requirements for South Africans and restrictions on consular services; a ban on the imports of South African agricultural goods and wine; a ban on imports of coal, iron, steel, uranium and gold coins; and a concerted attempt to force down the price of gold.

The first of these proposals is

The Rhodesian experience is instructive

common to all three agendas, and must be considered the most likely, as it simply recognizes a step which the market has already taken. Turning South Africa from a capital-importing into a capital-exporting nation has already had a measurable effect on the country's economic performance. During the period 1964-74 foreign capital provided 10 per cent of

eventual repatriation of foreign migrant labourers — so important to the revenue base of Lesotho and Mozambique — looks inevitable, against the background of high unemployment in South Africa.

Trade sanctions, such as ending agricultural imports and imports of coal, iron, steel, uranium and gold coins, would involve the most economic cost to South Africa. All of these commodities are vulnerable to boycotts, given existing levels of surpluses. Except for pig iron, South Africa should be able, on current estimates, to hold on to at least half to two-thirds of its existing export markets. In the event of a total trade embargo some estimates put the total losses to South Africa

A total embargo may cut export earnings only 20%

export earnings at only 20 per cent of the current total. A far more immediate tangible result, however, will be job losses in the coal and agricultural sectors in particular.

The threat of a multi-lateral attempt to drive down the price of gold must be regarded as a non-starter. There are far too many vested interests in the bullion trade, not the least of which are the expanding but highly price vulnerable gold mining sectors of Australia, Canada and the United States. The Soviet Union and significant interests in the Middle East would also not contemplate any such proposed action with equanimity.

Such a Cocks tour of the economic impact of sanctions takes insufficient account of the more fundamental political and psychological effects. South Africa has been subjected to a sanctions process since the 1950s, and the process of adaptation is a familiar one. As internal and external pressures rise, so, too, does the emigration rate of moderate whites who see no future in a clash of competing black and white nationalism. Contrary to the platitudes that sanctions are the last chance for peace, they actually guarantee polarization.

The author is public affairs adviser to the Anglo-American Corporation of South Africa. This is a personal view.

Nicholas Bethell finds the new British passport to be computer-readable, practical, but sadly cheap and ignoble

A kingdom's feeble calling card



achieved, will give our travellers far greater protection than they now enjoy. The new passport therefore makes excellent common sense but emotionally it is likely to prove disastrous. The colour, for instance, was a matter for fierce debate. It could not be blue, because British and French passports are blue, or green, because green belongs to the Italians and the Irish. It was politically necessary to choose a colour which none of the members could claim as their own, and the agreed solution — known technically as "burgundy" — is the colour of the fruit inside a summer pudding. A more serious difficulty is the computerized page. In some countries, especially Germany, the idea of personal data on computers arises deep suspicion, and Orwellian fears of a police state. European Parliament members from the seven new-passport countries (France, Ireland, Denmark, Belgium, Greece, Luxembourg and Italy) are already registering complaints. A mere few months of frequent travel to Brussels and Strasbourg have caused the plastic edges to fray and the need to slide about, so that they threaten to fall away from the stitching. The booklet will fall apart, they fear, long before the end of its 10-year period of validity. The main concern is that the whole look of the thing is so unimpressive. Maybe, they say, the present British passport was too arrogantly grand for the modern age, but the replacement is cheap and nasty, unworthy of the fine idea that conceived it as a practical convenience as well as a symbol of the growing unity of 350 million people. In other words the new common-format passport is just a bit too common for the purpose that it is meant to serve. It will help British people, but it will offend our gut feelings of personal identity and patriotism. It is a compromise hammered out by a committee who did not take these emotions sufficiently into account. The idea of a common European passport is well worth preserving and there can be no going back on the decision of principle to adopt a common format. The format presently being used, however, is a failure. It would make sense now for a committee of the Twelve to be sent back to the drawing-board with precise instructions on how to come up with something better. Lord Bethell is member of the European Parliament for London North West.

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Digby Anderson

Poverty's grey battalions

Why are the poor, especially in large numbers, so boring? Recently Michael Meacher, shadow secretary for social services, exploded again, ignited by the government's belated "hole-in-the-corner disclosure" of the latest poverty figures. He accused it of "suppressing the truth that poverty in Britain is now at its worst since the war and comparable with that of the 1930s... approaching 10.5 million". Ten and a half million boring poor.

This is a fact, not an insult. I am not alone in finding the poor boring. Everyone does — everyone, that is, except Michael Meacher. Frank Field MP and the various lobbies whose business financially or ideologically is poverty. As I write, several days have elapsed since the Meacher revelation, during which we might have expected a nationwide gasp of horror, a societal wave of revulsion, a mass outcry of protest, a surge on to the streets, pockets and handbags turned inside-out ready to relieve the poverty of the 10.5 million. But no: no gasps, no waves, no outcry and no surge, not even a little surge, no sign of a surge of any size or sort. Why not? It cannot be explained simply by the government's "underhand" timing of the release of the figures. Meacher regularly — every Monday, it seems — explodes about poverty without provoking the smallest of surges. Britain yawns.

One obvious explanation is that people don't believe the figures. It's not surprising. The government intends to alter the definition of poverty in order to "massage" the figures down. But it will only be doing, in reverse, what poverty academics have been doing for years. They, not satisfied with the number of poor created by absolute definitions, defined poverty relatively (I am poor because I have less than you), thus ensuring it (and their study of it) could never be abolished, and indeed would be considerably increased.

Using their definitions, they were able to "reveal" poverty levels of 15 million or more, and have been doing so for years. So many revelations of so much poverty have devalued the currency and the power to shock when, perhaps, there is genuine cause for shock.

The relative definition had the additional result of identifying poverty with inequality, which is what really irritated the academics' socialized consciences, unwarrantably confusing policies designed to reduce inequality with those to reduce poverty, and thus making poverty reduction by definition a socialist project.

Fortunately, none of this touched off any resonance with the inequalitarian, unacademic but considerably subtler man in the street. Of one survey David Donnison, sometime chairman of the Supplementary Benefits Com-

mission, writes: "Scarcely anyone gave poverty the egalitarian, relative meaning."

I suspect the man in the street would even be wary of the definition used for the Government's "suppressed" figures — which is based on supplementary benefit entitlement — for he sees contrary evidence. He knows by common observation what the High Street trading figures reveal about the saturation level of household goods in this supposedly poverty-stricken society. Those 10 million are not without baths, cookers, fridges, televisions, even cars.

Moreover, unlike the tight-fisted academics, he does not seek to corral very different persons into one category: the poor. He persistently distinguishes, much to the academics' irritation, between the deserving and undeserving poor, the poor and temporarily stretched, those who waste and those who manage, those who spend all and those who put aside for a rainy day, women who are lone parents through bereavement or desertion among those who have chosen that state, the genuinely poor family and the teenager willfully living on his own, the permanently poor and the student who will next year earn a high salary, the justified claimant and scroungers. In common parlance poverty is a moral category.

He is also aware that the poor are always with us, for poverty is the consequence of a rich variety of actions: there are as many reasons for having a low as a high income and only some amenable to state correction. Those 10 million — if 10 million there be — exist after 40 years of the welfare state. There's many a pub or bus stop conversation to endorse Charles Murray's recent study of American poverty, *Losing Ground*, which shows that precisely as federal spending on poverty increased so did poverty; that "interventions" (in the words of one left-wing reviewer) "have signalled to impoverished people — particularly black males — that there is little point in trying to escape from a life of welfare and crime".

If this is true, if the man in the street is not indifferent to local individual cases of genuine poverty, but only to official poverty figures and naive solutions, there is a lesson for those who truly want a popular campaign to reduce reducible poverty — and that is to tighten their definitions, fashioning them in the light of popular knowledge and moral sensibility, reducing the numbers of the poor to a minimum. But poverty is a business and that would be bad for business. It is much more likely that the Meacher explosions, contorted definitions, exaggerated figures and Utopian faith in government intervention will continue, and with them the national yawn. The author is director of the Social Affairs Unit.

moreover... Miles Kingston

Support your local sponsor

Overheard in a pub at the weekend: Customer: I can't buy this bottle of Guinness.

Landlord: What's wrong with it? Customer: It hasn't got Daley Thompson's name on it.

Yes, sponsorship is everywhere these days. I can't get dressed in the morning without looking at my back, just in case I've got a sponsor's name on it. Racing drivers are the most extreme case — their driving kit and cars are so plastered with the names of businesses that in some of the lighter cars the sponsors' slogans account for more than three per cent of the total weight. There is rumoured to be one Grand Prix driver who no longer wears overalls while driving: he just has his sponsors' names sewn tightly together.

Overheard at a Grand Prix pit stop: Mechanic: What's the trouble? Driver: It's going to rain, I think. Mechanic: Right, lads! Put on his weather-proof sponsor's messages!

Why, one wonders, is the weather forecast not sponsored? After all, the British Telecom recorded time is now sponsored by Accurist, whoever they are, but the weather forecast is just the British Telecom Weather Line. Could they find nobody prepared to back something a little less dependable than the time? What faint-hearted they are at British Telecom! Why not something like this...?

"Later this afternoon the sunny spells so generously supported by Ambre Solaire will be dying out as a series of Aquascutum squalls come in from the west. In the evening, which today comes to you courtesy of the Society of West End Theatres, the Glenfiddich mist will thin out to give a clear, Everest Double Glazing night. And now, tomorrow's weather prospects from Old Moore's Almanack."

Overheard outside a TV rental shop recently: First Painter: Is that girl throwing the javelin Fatima? Second Painter: The one sponsored by Whitbread? First Painter: Or is it Tessa? Second Painter: The one sponsored by the wallpaper people? Yes, sponsorship is everywhere these days. Or is it? It may have in-

vaded sport, and the arts, and the very time on our wrists, but has it left politics totally untouched? How can it be that the Tory government, who are so eager for everything else to be supported by willing firms, have not yet called upon their aid in politics — besides, of course, the trifling matter of contributing to party funds?

Well, I have wonderful news for everyone. From the next session onwards, Parliament itself is to receive sponsorship backing. In conditions of the greatest secrecy, an all-party group has secured commercial sponsorship for every day on which Parliament is open. The marquee which are such a common sight at Test matches, Wimbledon and Open golf tournaments, will now be spread over the laws of Westminster — and if there are not enough laws at Westminster, they will be erected throughout the cloisters of this venerable but under-funded place.

Lucky clients of the sponsors will be able to get themselves full of smoked salmon and champagne, then stroll through the hallowed corridors to take their places in a specially endowed sponsors' balcony, where they can watch the cut and thrust of our national game, cheer on their champions and marvel at the technical wizardry of Neil Kinnock as he makes a sentence last longer than anyone thought possible.

And which financial giant has agreed to make all this possible? Why, none other than our own proprietor, Lord Moreover, chief landlord of the Amazon Basin and owner of more paintings by Matisse than Matisse actually painted in his lifetime. Yes, Moreover Holdings will be the sole sponsors of all parliamentary activity from this autumn onwards!

We pledge ourselves, of course, not to interfere in any way with the actual proceedings of parliament. All we say is that if the House of Commons does not provide the entertainment and spectacle to which we are entitled, then we shall withdraw our sponsorship at a moment's notice. And that if an MP is seen walking around without a Moreover sticker on him, then he is no longer entitled to represent his constituents.

Anderson
ty's grey
talions



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A NEW CURE FOR OLD ILLS

Restraint, moderation, wage norms: the language comes from ten, no, twenty years ago. Old talk of pay policy is heard once again. And who is listening? Pay-bargainers in the private sector are certainly not: United Kingdom pay per head is rising by an annual 7 1/2 per cent. There is a lowering backlog of public sector settlements. Pay comparability with the private sector has almost been conceded for the Civil Service.

Only months ago any such talk of "excessive" settlements, especially in the mouth of Government ministers, was judged not just heterodox but incoherent. Faith in the workings of the labour market in a context of sound money still held. Indeed that faith inspired the Government to its package of trade union reforms.

But the passage of those reforms makes the conundrum the greater. If they have had any effect, they have surely made it more difficult for unions to exact a "mark up" in pay bargaining. There are those who might want the Government to go further in its attack on the legal status of trade unions; but even they have surely to concede that the practical effect of changes already made seem, in the face of recent pay figures, to be mysteriously puny.

That inflation has fallen is still the Government's most powerful single cry - however fortuitous the contributions from world commodity prices now looks. Unemployment remains on its high plateau. But still wages rise. Employers are prepared to pay for substantial increases in real remuneration for the employed segment of the workforce.

Plainly it cannot last. Optimists say low price inflation will work through into pay bargains soon. Pessimists predict, as early as 1987, the onset of stagflation: rising prices and minimal growth set within a continuing context of high unemployment.

The intellectual problems are not Mr Nigel Lawson's alone. Any Chancellor would have in the later years of this decade to contend with what Sir Alan Walters modestly calls the mystery of pay negotiation in an economy where monopoly supply of labour by trade unions and monopoly-like control of product markets allow enterprises to pass on the effect of pay settlements unjustified by productivity gains.

It is at this point that the cleverness of the proposals made this week by Mr Gavyn Davies deserve attention. That Mr Davies is a former policy adviser to Mr James Callaghan and an economist who, despite his success in the City, retains his connexions with Labour policy-makers is very relevant. He belongs to that school of economists who have never given up their search for State control of pay increments. Within it the cleavage between Social Democrats and Labourites means little, and ideas have been vigorously traded between them.

Mr Davies has put a twist on Professor Richard Layard's conception of a pay policy based upon taxing above-normal pay settlements. His plan would exempt from the tax those bargains which were rooted in a genuine profit sharing scheme - genuine meaning one in which employees share in profit growth rather than some alteration of the wage/profit boundary.

Perhaps more important than the details are the clues the scheme gives about the evolution of thinking on the economy and labour market in Mr Davies's sector of the Labour Party. That he puts profit-sharing by employees at the heart of his scheme (and all but ignores the unions and the public sector) speaks volumes.

Profit-sharing is catholic in its attractiveness. Mr David Steel can, quite properly, remind the world that a scheme for employee participation in profits figured in the Liberal Party manifesto of 1929. The idea naturally attracts all those who hope not only to educate the British people about enterprise and profit but also to win them - hearts, minds, and pockets - for the capitalist system.

Now it seems that Labour can also join the throng. Mr Davies and economists of his bent see profit-sharing as a mechanism that could facilitate macro-economic objects that in the past have been thwarted by micro-economic failures, notably in the labour market. Profit sharing could become for Labour what industrial democracy once was. What was the cooperative movement after all but profit-sharing?

The Lawson green paper, issued last month, indicated that some of the enthusiasm he evinced in the Budget had cooled to tepid. Without following Mr Davies all the way, Mr Lawson might at least take inspiration from the conjuncture he makes with wage control. Here, to put it crudely, is scope aplenty for mutual clothes stealing. Here is a mechanism for breaking with a past of excess labour costs that still haunts us.

NEXT YEAR IN TEL AVIV?

Political subtlety is not Moscow's strong point. But it is unusual even for the Soviet Union to present its foreign policy strategy with quite as little guile as it did this past weekend. The coincidence of the promise of exit visas for Anatoli Shcharansky's family and the announcement of direct Soviet-Israeli talks - exposed all the mercenary calculation behind the Kremlin's approach to Israel.

Trading people for political advantage comes easily to the Soviet authorities. But the Gorbachov leadership has shown special brinkmanship in this trade. The release of Anatoli Shcharansky, the Jewish activist and human rights campaigner, was a bold step which at once rid the Soviet Union of a potent symbol of its human rights abuses and removed an obstacle to better East-West relations.

Last the West see the release of Shcharansky as a sign of weakness, however, Moscow simultaneously reduced the number of Jews allowed to emigrate and stalled on its undertaking to allow Shcharansky's mother and brother to join him in Israel. Whether the Soviet Union or Israel won in subsequent bargaining will only emerge after this week's talks, but some pointers are already in place.

Israel has never fought shy of talking to the Soviet Union.

It was Moscow that broke off diplomatic relations after the 1967 Six-Day war and Moscow that set conditions for re-establishing them. It stipulated the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied territory. Israel's recognition of the right of Palestinians to establish their own state, and the return of East Jerusalem to Arab rule. If Moscow is now discussing an eventual restoration of diplomatic relations, albeit at the lower, consular level, this is a minor victory for Israel.

It is a minor victory too, whatever pressure might have been exerted by the United States, to have gained exit visas for Shcharansky's family. Reunification of families (abroad) has never figured high on the Kremlin's list of priorities. And once Ida Milgrom and Leonid Shcharansky leave the Soviet Union, as it is to be hoped they will do shortly, Moscow loses a valuable bargaining chip.

Nonetheless, the very fact that Moscow has granted these concessions should, and no doubt will, move Israel to exercise caution in its dealings with the Soviet Union. For it suggests that Moscow now assesses its need for direct relations with Israel more highly than in the past, when it contented itself with secret ambassadorial contacts and the use of intermediaries like Romania and Finland. Moscow appears to have

reached the conclusion, proceeding perhaps from its wider review of foreign policy, that perpetuating the break with Israel is no longer in its interests (if ever it was). Certainly, the absence of Soviet-Israeli ties, the Camp David agreement and the disunity of the Arab countries have combined to reduce Soviet influence in the Middle East and frustrate the Kremlin's long-standing scheme for an international conference with Soviet participation.

The re-establishment of relations could also work to Israel's advantage. It might, possibly, ease Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union, especially if Moscow could be reassured that emigrants would not go instead to the United States. It might mean less official vitriol being directed at non-emigrating Soviet Jews - a powerful emotional bonus. And it might offer the prospect of more civilized relations between Israel and its Soviet-supported neighbour, Syria, and raise Israel's international status.

But if the price for this, as has been mooted, is Israel's surrender to Syria of all, or part of the Golan Heights, any serious dealing will probably have to wait. For no Israeli government, let alone the fragile coalition that is about to change leaders, will be prepared to make that sort of compromise. Not yet.

THE HOUSING JUNGLE

After winning a mate, the most expensive, exciting, hazardous and worrying commitment into which the average person ever enters is that of buying a new house - or, for that matter, selling his old one.

South of the Scottish border the process resembles a complex set of gears which are revolving at different speeds. One man agrees to buy another man's home, after which he has to sell his own house to a third party, who is doing exactly the same thing with a fourth, and so on. The time it all takes allows too much scope for gazumping, the practice by which a vendor, after agreeing to sell his house to one party, changes his mind and sells it to a later, higher bidder.

This was prevalent in the sellers' market of the early 1970s and has recently surfaced again. In one sense it is the law of supply and demand, which regulates trade in the market place and which customers have to get used to. On the other hand it can lead not only to significant financial loss for the victim (who might have spent money on surveys and legal fees) but also to a climate of mistrust which

discourages the conduct of good business. One solution would be for the rest of the country to follow the example of Scotland, where potential buyers submit sealed bids by a certain date - after which the deal is binding. The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors is in favour of adopting this or some similar method which would bring forward the moment of decision. The completion date could still remain subject to negotiation between the two parties, to give the buyer time to sell his own house. But the contract to buy and sell would have been signed.

One objection which is sometimes advanced is that while it might operate well enough in Scotland where only 40 per cent of a smaller population own their houses, it would be hard to operate in England and Wales, where house ownership is over 60 per cent.

This difference hardly sounds insuperable. But a more flexible alternative will be outlined later this year anyway by the Standing Committee on Conveyancing - established some time

ago under the auspices of the Law Commission. The 12-person committee is bringing out a consultation paper on a scheme which would involve drafting a "preliminary deposit agreement." Both parties would pay between one-quarter and one-half of one per cent of the purchase price, as a deposit - to be forfeited if either side withdraws. The contract would probably be voluntary. But the refusal of either party to enter into it would at least send a warning signal to the other.

There would need to be get-out clauses to allow for the later discovery of dry rot or death watch beetle. But it would have the advantage of encouraging mutual confidence without irrevocably binding either party too soon at a time of swiftly changing circumstances. It would at least protect the innocent party from financial loss.

Whether it would be enough to regularise the house market remains to be seen. But it is worth serious consideration by all sides. If a man's word can no longer be his bond, then his wallet must be - and he must pay for his over-private enterprise.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Police training in use of firearms

From the Deputy Chief Constable of West Midlands Police
Sir, In his article (July 29), "What police have to learn about guns", Michael Yardley starts with the premise that Police Constable Brian Chester was "packaged" into an almost heroic figure by West Midlands police.

This suggests that his return to the beat after a long period of suspension from duty was engineered by the force as some form of public relations exercise designed as a smokescreen to hide alleged inadequacies in respect of police firearms training and operations.

Nothing could be further from the truth. It was public demand, as expressed through the media, which influenced the publicity surrounding his welcome back in uniform by sincere members of the public. Nothing would have suited me better than for the officer to have returned quietly to his Willenhall manor. It was direct pressure from newspapers, television and radio in the form of daily telephoned enquiries and demands for facilities to publicise the event that prevented this from happening.

In West Midlands both the Chief Constable and the police authority are continuously reviewing all aspects of police firearms and the difficulties set out by Mr Yardley in respect of selection, training, assessment and deployment are well known to us. However, the Chief Constable cannot simply sit back and wait for the psychologists to produce the requisite test. He has to act and react to the ever-changing scene in which he works.

Consequently, and subject to observations by the police authority, the Chief Constable has moved toward full-time police firearms units which will rotate their duties between armed security at Birmingham International Airport, standby duties, operational deployments and training. In this way he will avoid

the dangers and difficulties envisaged by Mr Yardley in his outlined compartmented special squad sitting in barracks waiting to be called out.

It is difficult to understand Mr Yardley's conclusion that "the greatest problem to be overcome is one of police sensitivity to criticism". I would have thought that insensitivity to criticism is the real danger. Fortunately, this country enjoys a police force which consults and listens to public criticism - perhaps never more so than in the field of police firearms operations.

Following the Stephen Waldorf shooting the police service produced the *Manual of Guidance on Police Use of Firearms* which covers the whole range of weaponry selection, training and deployments and Mr Yardley is signally incorrect as to the length of the training period.

No force in the country limits its firearms training to 10 days. In West Midlands there is an initial two-day evaluation and assessment course from which selected candidates proceed to the 10-day training, followed by a minimum of eight days' refresher training each year. Selected officers are then sent on a three-week course, the syllabus for which is split equally between marksmanship and tactics. These officers receive a minimum of 15 days' refresher training each year.

Since the publication of the manual the service has made many changes. That process has not been helped by sometimes ill-informed opinions and the multifarious expertise of the firearms experts and psychologists, many of whom seem to be in direct conflict with one another.

Yours faithfully,
L. SHARP,
Deputy Chief Constable,
West Midlands Police,
Police Headquarters,
Colmore Circus,
Queensway, Birmingham.

Greyhound racing

From the Senior Steward of the National Greyhound Racing Club and the Chairman of the British Greyhound Racing Board

Sir, The report of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission's inquiry into the supply in Great Britain of the services of managing greyhound tracks (details, August 4) illustrates that the Fair Trading Act 1973 must surely never have been intended to authorise investigations into controlling bodies of sporting organisations.

The monopolies commission is singularly ill-equipped to inquire into the organisation of governing bodies of sport and there is no doubt that, in finding their task extremely difficult, over greyhound racing, they were baffled to arrive at any satisfactory recommendations.

After two years of investigation, they could find no fault in the organisation of the National Greyhound Racing Club and the control which it has exercised as the judicial and disciplinary body of the second largest spectator sport in Britain, nor of the British Greyhound Racing Board as the elected representative body for the sport.

Only two rules out of 185 have

been recommended for amendment and then only after further discussions with the Director General of Fair Trading. These amended rules will then further strengthen the underlying policy of the NGRC so that, ideally, all greyhounds will race in their registered stud book names.

However, this whole exercise has been extremely costly to the sport - nearly £50,000 in professional fees alone, not to mention the enormous cost to the taxpayer - and shows that other major sports such as association football, horse racing, rugby, etc. could face the possibility of similar investigation. Any sport, by its very nature, must have a number of rules that necessarily restrict the activities of the competitors.

Let this be a warning to all sporting organisations of the possibility that they, in turn, may be involved in a long and costly investigation by the monopolies commission but, in the end, the mountain will only bring forth a mouse.

Yours faithfully,
J. H. S. MAJURY,
Senior Steward, The National Greyhound Racing Club Ltd,
NEWALL, Chairman,
British Greyhound Racing Board,
24-28 Oval Road, NW1.

Lost chords

From Mr B. J. Davey
Sir, I share Dr Burns's concern (July 31) that the increasing commercialisation of St Paul's Cathedral and other cathedrals means that even a 30-minute organ recital cannot be listened to except against a background of multilingual guided tours, but surely his conclusion that in these circumstances there seems little hope for music in the Anglican Church is too pessimistic and misses the point.

The primary function of the skilled musicians who serve our cathedrals and collegiate churches is to provide a wide range of relevant music to the highest possible standards within the context of the liturgy of the Church. As such they form part of the worshipping community of the Church and are not primarily performers seeking an audience. There can be no doubt, even to the casual visitor, that the standard of cathedral music in this country is in very good shape indeed, and I hope that Dr Burns and Bernard Rose (July 25) realize that the congregations who attend choral services fully appreciate the contributions made by organists and choirs and believe that the Church would be impoverished without them.

The hope for music in the Anglican Church lies in the continued relevance of music as an element of worship and in the ability of the Church to attract and retain musicians of the highest calibre who share this view. The present level of commitment shown by church musicians and the high standards of performance they achieve surely indicate that

the Anglican Church can face its musical future with some confidence.

Yours,
B. J. DAVEY,
346 Banbury Road, Oxford.

From Mr Richard Meredith
Sir, Dr Burns (July 31) quite rightly deplores the cacophony in St Paul's Cathedral during an organ recital. However, I am more disturbed by the needless irreverence exhibited by the tourist and abetted by the ringing of cash tills and the babble of guides.

It is impossible to enter the jewel of the Anglican Church and pray; to contemplate the triumph of God over the world or the mystery of faith whilst the Dean and Chapter appear to see themselves as servants of the tourist and not as sacred ministers charged with maintaining reverence and dignity in the place set aside for the worship and presence of God.

From its building, St Paul's has always drawn the curious, the artists and the religious. Amidst the city it has reminded countless generations of Londoners that there is something greater than mammon; but in recent years the bustle and noise of the world have entered the cathedral and made it a poorer place.

Sir, I suspect that there is more awe and genuine prayer in the secularised cathedrals in the Kremlin than in the cathedral church of London during the tourist season.

Yours faithfully,
R. MEREDITH,
Lightbourne Rectory,
Kenyon Lane,
Manchester,
August 1.

Words and bonds

From Mr Denis Barnes
Sir, In 1913 my great-uncle invested £150 in Russian bonds at 4 1/2 per cent. By October, 1917, interest payments had ceased, the bonds passed through various generations and now hang framed upon our walls as a lesson, or a joke, according to taste.

More accomplished readers will no doubt be able to calculate the present-day value of £150 in 1917 and the value of accrued unpaid interest at 4 1/2 per cent for 69 years. I find it astonishing - or perhaps, on reflection I do not, bearing in mind the performance of our present Government - that

National Gallery appointment

From Mr Cecil Gould
Sir, I wonder if I am alone in feeling grave doubts about the judgement of the selection committee on the directorship of the National Gallery (report, August 1)? The mere fact that the first appointee, the American, Mr Pillsbury, saw fit to decline is far from reassuring.

More disquieting still is the inadequacy of achievement to date of both appointees. To my knowledge, Mr Pillsbury has no scholarly publications of any consequence to his credit. He is said to have bought well for the museum at Fort Worth, but with funds at his disposal this is not difficult. Mr MacGregor cannot claim even this. He has never worked in even a minor museum, nor has he, so far as I know, published anything of consequence.

Both appointments were therefore made on the strength of what, in the fallible judgement of the selection committee, was considered to be "promise". To judge by the Press reports the committee were impressed by Mr MacGregor's "charm". A charming qualification for director of the National Gallery! In any case, both appointments seem to have been in the nature of a gamble; and a gamble in the case of an appointment of this importance may be seen as an extraordinary act of irresponsibility.

In a gallery, as in other organisations, it is essential for the staff to respect the chief. But, since in this case several of them are vastly more distinguished than the new director, this will be difficult and will lead to friction. When one considers the brilliant achievements of Sir Charles Eastlake, Lord Clark, Sir Martin Davies or Sir Michael Levey - achievements that they could already show at the time of their appointments - the nomination of Mr MacGregor gives cause for profound dismay.

Yours etc,
CECIL GOULD (Keeper and Deputy Director of the National Gallery, 1973-1978),
Jubilee House,
Thorncombe,
Chard, Somerset.

Television time

From Dr Peter Gold
Sir, If your correspondent, Mr G. L. Lloyd (August 2), genuinely believes that "a point of view has basically two strands - for and against", then he has quite clearly been brainwashed by the adversarial political system which has dominated our country for far too long and which the Conservative and Labour parties would desperately like to preserve.

The sooner we get away from the simplistic notions of pro and anti - Them and Us - "if you're not for us you're against us", the better the hope for the future.

The rise of the Alliance parties in this country is a clear demonstration that the electorate recognizes that there are more than two sides to an argument and more than two angles to an issue. It is thus the electorate, as much as the Alliance parties, who are being deprived of the proper representation of their views through the medium of television.

Yours faithfully,
PETER GOLD,
39 Edgehill Road,
Sheffield, South Yorkshire.

Road to tyranny

From Mr George Mandel
Sir, Bernard Levin (August 1) believes, on the one hand, that this century has seen "the record for the greatest number of innocent human beings deliberately done to death in the entire history of the world" and, on the other hand, "that mankind in general is better than it was in the earlier centuries".

No doubt these two statements are not, strictly speaking, incompatible with one another; yet there is such a contrast between them that I can't help wondering whether Mr Levin's belief in progress - albeit only in slow progress - isn't itself a manifestation of the same deep human longing for the world to be other than it actually is that leads the people he criticises to hero-worship tyrants such as Stalin and Mao.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE MANDEL,
The Old Stores, Combe, Oxford,
August 1.

Taxman's over-dose

From Mr Alan Bradley
Sir, Paragraph 4 (2) of schedule 12 of the Finance Bill, dealing with the tax treatment of pension scheme surpluses, reads as follows:

The Board may make regulations providing for prescribed provisions of this Part of this Schedule to apply, as from a prescribed date, in prescribed circumstances, and subject to any prescribed omissions or modifications, in relation to any exempt approved scheme of another prescribed kind.

The "degree of prescription" of this paragraph (defined as the number of times the word "prescribed" occurs as a proportion of the total number of words) is 11.4 per cent.

Is this a record? More seriously, is this an acceptable form in which to enact legislation giving new taxing powers to the Inland Revenue?

Yours faithfully,
ALAN BRADLEY,
Lane, Clark & Peacock
(Actuaries),
Regent House,
89 Kingsway, WC2.

ON THIS DAY

AUGUST 5 1981

The effect of the Road Traffic Act of 1931, which introduced the Highway Code, had not yet been assessed, but there was some evidence, "based on expert observation", that the standard of driving had improved since the removal of the speed limit on private cars. The number of persons killed in road accidents 50 years later (1980) was 5,963, fewer by some 1300 than the figure given in the article

Unnecessary Road Accidents

At the moment when the customary toll of the roads during a Bank Holiday week-end is fresh in the minds of the public, the letter from ADMIRAL DENT on this page is an important and opportune commentary on the appalling loss of life due to traffic accidents that goes on all through the year. In 1930 the number of persons killed in Great Britain was 7,305, besides 177,895 injured, a total greater by 7,587 than in 1929. According to ADMIRAL DENT'S analysis of the figures only 2,027 of the killed (1,464 of whom were motor-cyclists or their passengers) were occupants of the vehicles held to be at fault while 4,611 were pedestrians or pedal cyclists. The occupants of the motor-cars and commercial vehicles involved were more fortunate. Only 583 of them paid with their lives for the fault of the driver. So much for the fatal results, the magnitude of which makes it a matter of vital urgency to probe deeply into the root causes of the accidents. ADMIRAL DENT suggests a different explanation from that to which they are generally attributed. In his opinion - and there is not a shadow of doubt that he is right - the responsibility lies to a great extent with the road authorities. Or "improving" roads which are utterly unsuitable for fast motor traffic asks too much of the users of the roads - drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists alike. The truth is that a large part of our road policy in recent years has been fundamentally wrong. It is extravagant, unnecessary, and dangerous. In these days, wide, straight, well-constructed arterial roads, connecting all important centres of the population in the island, north, south, east, and west, are absolutely essential. The mischief is done by the almost universal tendency to go beyond this requirement. Tempted by the grants offered by the Ministry, local authorities are everywhere engaged - at a huge cost - in converting into suburban branches of the main highways country roads and lanes that at the best are alternative and unnecessary routes and ought never to be made available for rapid motor traffic. A network of these unwanted motor tracks is being created all over the country. In their zeal to cater for outside traffic and to outdo each other in providing the facilities which it welcomes but does not need, local authorities are busily engaged in widening existing roadways, sacrificing grass margins and footpaths, cutting down sloping banks, and rounding off corners which in their original state, because they clearly call for extra caution, are themselves an obstacle to excessive speed and therefore make for the greater safety of all concerned, and particularly of the rural population for whose use these country roads were and should be intended. For the security of their lives and limbs, as well as for the reason that the country cannot possibly afford them, the time has come to cry halt to the extravagant policy by which too many local authorities are still obsessed.

Meanwhile it appears from the observations carried out by officials of the Royal Automobile Club and the Automobile Association on the week-end motor traffic that the general standard of efficiency was high. There was a natural tendency to take advantage of the abolition of the speed limit, but most drivers appear to have paid proper attention to road conditions and to have increased speed only when it was possible to do so without incurring any risk of injuring themselves or others. It is particularly satisfactory to learn that there was a marked absence of cutting-in, and that there are continued signs of the beneficial effect of the Road Traffic Act of 1931. The Highway Code issued by the MINISTER OF TRANSPORT. But every thoughtful user of the roads knows that there is still urgent need for further improvement. The number of reckless and inconsiderate drivers and of careless pedestrians is still far too large, and as the inevitable consequence of their willful or foolish failings there are still far too many preventable accidents and unnecessary deaths.

It is the bounden duty of every motorist to read, learn, and act upon the hints and warnings of the Highway Code. It is the no less solemn obligation of all pedestrians to determine never to cross a road without being absolutely certain that no approaching vehicle is near enough to run into them - or to be forced to swerve dangerously in the endeavour to avoid them. When all users of the roads have these rules at their fingers' ends, and when all authorities have adopted a saner policy of road-making, then and not till then will there be a real prospect of some reduction in the toll that the roads exact.

Lit-picking

From Dr P. J. Cuff
Sir, The new Oxford *Minidictionary of Spelling* carries with it a printed slip which reads as follows:

"The following error escaped our notice:
For *illicterate* read *illetterate*."
Yours faithfully,
P. J. CUFF,
Pembroke College, Oxford.

ARY
YL MARKHAM
anya girl who made
pioneering flight

THE ARTS

Television
Garbled
opinions

It is a modern fallacy for which television bears much responsibility. That the man in the street has anything worth saying. More and more the nation has gained currency that you merely have to ask some passing Tom, Dick or Harry about apartheid, democracy or original sin and you will be delivered of an opinion which is not only interesting but sane.

Channel 4's *Comment* tries to do this by inviting members of the public with strong personal opinions to sound off about them after its excellent news bulletin. Such an access programme obviously becomes a target for organizations and lobby groups. Invariably, it is used by men and women with a grade or political bias in their bones. Invariably the bee stops buzzing as soon as they start speaking so that what is intended as a provocative statement becomes a breathless piece of gibberish by someone looking as if he is about to burst into tears.

Channel 4 may gain a prize with this enterprise with that bastion of democracy, the IBA, but I doubt if it gains the attention of its viewers. The problem lies in the fact that such an important outlet is just not given the resources it needs. Judging from their previous gains not only booked unseen but also given a ludicrously short time to be coached in their delivery and script. It was only by pinching oneself that one realized Patricia Wharton's recent monologues concealed an attack on state schools as hotbeds for "the worst hoodlums and spilt brats in Europe" and a cry for their speedy privatization.

Last night Dr Mark Corner, a lecturer in religious studies, pressed for a fuller participation in the Church by all Christians. His manner of argument was similar to last Wednesday's cautious, incomprehensible plea by the Yugoslav ambassador for non-alignment. They were replies on a segment that did not match on Jaci Stephen, who the week before had castigated the British for being a race of closet virgins.

BBC's new serial, *Fighting Back*, began promisingly with Hazel O'Connor in the lead role. As an unmarried mother of two who returns to her roots, she played the part with a gallant, dishevelled rawness that forced one to conclude she makes a better actress than singer.

Nicholas Shakespeare

Galleries: a long-lost British versatility comes back with a bang
Half a dozen painters all in one

Colin Self's Colin Sells
ICA

Andy Warhol
Anthony d'Offay

Roy Lichtenstein
Mayor

If the name of Colin Self rings any bells at all, it must be from some time back. In the early Sixties he was quite well known as a contemporary and crony of David Hockney and Peter Blake, among others who were then loosely associated, as he was himself, with the Pop Art movement. But then he vanished. He has not had a major exhibition for 20 years, and has not been seen or heard of in the London art scene at all for most of that time. Now, out of the blue comes a large show at the ICA until August 31. Its aim, very successfully carried out, is to catch up with the hidden developments during those years.

So what happened? Well, it seems that Self, a loner from the outset, became increasingly disillusioned with the commercial rat race, the over-selling of Pop Art as an American movement, the unnecessary centering of all art supposedly worth considering on the metropolis. He wanted out, and he got out. He took to the country, and since the end of the Sixties has been working alone, unexhibited and below the poverty line, in Scotland and in his native Norfolk, by deliberate choice a "localist" artist. And what sort of thing has he

been doing, you might well wonder? It would be more relevant to ask what he has not been doing. The walls of the ICA's large lower gallery are filled to overflowing with the evidence: when did you last see a full Victorian "Academy hang" with pictures stacked up five deep or more, so that binoculars are definitely in order if you are to appreciate the subtleties of the topmost rows?

This, it seems, was done on the artist's insistence, to represent as many strands of his work as possible. Even so, the sculptures were nearly left out, until he made a very determined case for their being put in: as well he might, for they are extremely odd and interesting, made, apparently, by a technically simple but aesthetically intricate method of his own devising, which involves hollowing out a mould blind, under the surface of the earth or sand, then filling it with concrete, to dig up when it hardens and find what you have made. What Self has made is a series of grotesque, sculptural cartoons like those of Daumier, which for all their roughness capture the imagination.

But his more remarkable talents are as painter and draughtsman. You might well be looking at the work of half a dozen different people. There is, as we might expect from what we remember of his Sixties history, the "committed" collage making sharp points about nuclear aggression, racist repression and the progressive dehumanization of people at large. These pieces, unlike so much of their kind, have the saving grace of a quirky sense of humour. Then there is the sophisticated-primitive image-maker of such works as *A Vase of Flowers in Betty Forbes'*

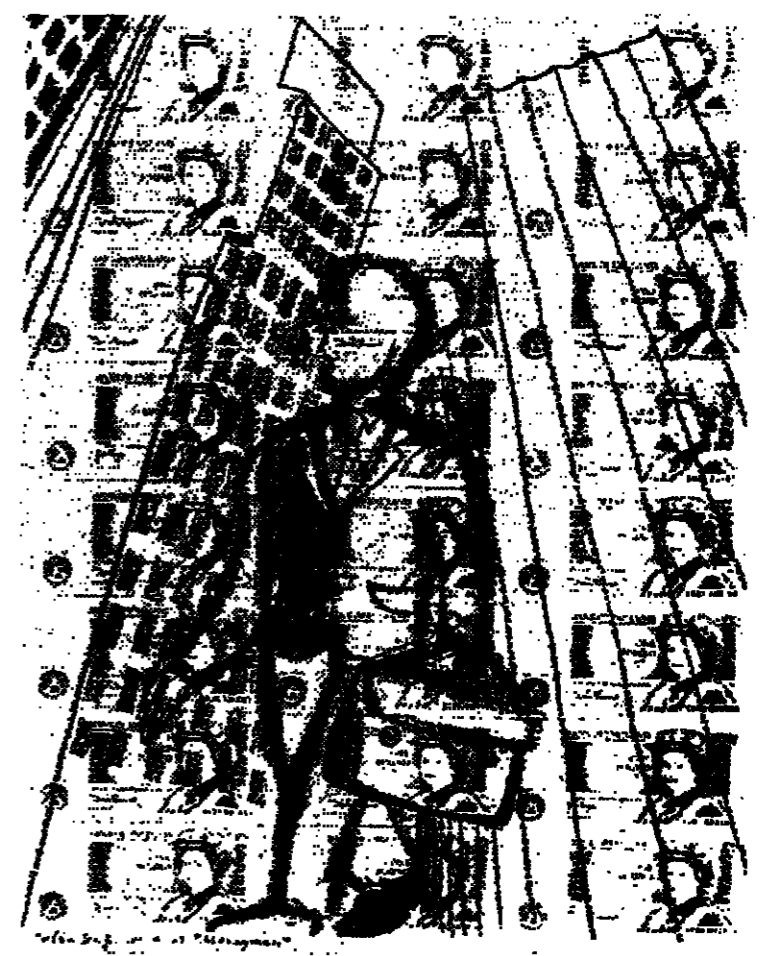
Window (day Forbes Bakery was demolished) or *Moneyman*, a drawing on serial ranks of pound notes, which sometimes, especially when they involve human figures, oddly recall Barro.

Then there is the maker of extraordinary assemblages in picture form which have nothing at all to do with Pop Art, like the amazing *Ploughman*, which makes the most exquisitely simple, subtle use of ordinary brown corrugated paper to give the effect of furrowed earth. There is the incredibly adroit oriental artist who makes brush drawings like *A Toad and a Rose*, which must have been done in two seconds flat. And there is the splendid traditional English water-colourist of Scottish scenes like *The Water of Deugh* or *Cairnmoor in the distance under Snow Cloud* or of flowers and fish in the unruffled lakes, which suddenly transport us into the world of Albert Goodwin, and of which Ruskin would surely have totally approved. It is undeniably strange that this artist, or all these artists, should have found it necessary to withdraw for so long. But he has been anything but idle, and it is wonderfully satisfying to have him back.

Elsewhere in London there are shows of recent work by two big names of the Sixties who have never been away: Andy Warhol at Anthony d'Offay's, and Roy Lichtenstein at the Mayor Gallery, both until August 21. Both, curiously, are showing a series of head paintings, both in very much their respective familiar styles. And both are in various ways disappointing, perhaps because of over-familiarity: maybe we would think better of them if they too had been unseeable for more than a decade. The Warhols are all self-portraits, and I find it difficult at this late date to take them very seriously. They are all the same photograph of Warhol, screen-printed on canvas in various sizes. The smaller-sized canvases are then simply tilted overall in one colour - lilac, lavender, pink, orange, pale blue - and so are the very largest. The next size down comes in several cases with a variation: a patchwork of apparently stencilled random shapes is superimposed on the same image.

Now it is quite possible to take Warhol himself perfectly seriously without according the same degree of respect to individual works. He has indicated as much himself with his constant reassertion that anyone could paint a Warhol and his quite sincere (it must be, when you consider how well he can draw when he wants to) cult of the impersonal and the mechanized image. True, he has tended to sue people who took him at his word and turned out their own Warhols, but that does not invalidate the basic intellectual position. And undoubtedly he has revolutionized our way of seeing, not only in the graphic arts, but in the cinema as well. The fact remains that, like Beuys, he is much more interesting as a person and a force than as an artist, a triumph of PR rather than of direct creation. They have been the Marinettis of our day, and deserve all credit for it. But would you want an original Warhol at a high price when, as he would be the first to say, you could do just as well yourself?

Lichtenstein is a more complicated case. He has certainly evolved since the days when he set the dovescote aflutter with his paintings like blown-up frames of strip cartoons, and his painted



Colin Self as the sophisticated-primitive image-maker in *Moneyman*, oddly recalling Barro

textures derived from enormous magnification of the tiny dots in newsprint. Now his works are nearly abstract, though still instantly recognizable as his because these same textures derived from the processes of mechanical reproduction are still present. The latest series of paintings are all entitled *Face or Head*, and equipped with this clue one can just about see how the titles are justified - more readily, strangely enough, in black-and-white photographs than in the original. They

are cheery and colourful and would fit nicely into a High Tech interior, but again they bear very little scrutiny on their own account. The trouble with the Sixties artists' programmed reduction of the personal element in art is that, without it, there is little left except decorative effect. And, while decorative effect is fine in a rug or a jug, on a gallery wall, inviting one close and undivided attention, it can very soon grow wearisome.

John Russell Taylor

Opera

Don Giovanni
Glyndebourne

"Record time tonight, wasn't it?" gasped one member of the London Philharmonic, beating a hasty retreat from the pit. "Bit slow, I think", was the reply. They were both right, and that was just the trouble. Glyndebourne's *Don Giovanni* has not been on top form this year, as Paul Griffiths reported on this page when it opened. Now, halfway through its run, Bernard Haitink has taken over the baton, and what should have given the revival something of a lift has, through lack of adequate rehearsal, caused it to sink a little further into uncertainty.

Haitink's reading of the score - stately, clearly paced, gracefully phrased - runs alongside what is happening on stage rather than meshing with it and activating it. And with a cast of whom many sound simply overriden, it too often has the effect of elegant incidental music accompanying visually handsome stills. This *Don Giovanni* (Richard Stilwell) is a character who never really surfaces from the shadows of Peter Hall's production, now rehauled by Stephen Lawless; each of his three ladies, Carol Vaness, Felicity Lott and Lesley Garrett, is in her own way at present struggling between him and Haitink. This maestro, alas, is not one to indulge vocal dalliance, as Miss Garrett's Zerlina, in particular, found out once too often. The focus is sharpened in the presence of Dimitri Kavrakos's Commendatore, and, mercifully, whenever Richard van Allan is around. His Leporello, alone acting through, not merely alongside, the score, remains the real master of ceremonies.

Hilary Finch

Opera

The Maureen Lipman revival of *Wonderful Town* which comes to the Queen's Theatre on Thursday also brings back to London, for the first time in 30 years, the now 74-year-old co-author of its book, Jerome Chodorov. Based on the stage and screen success that he and his late partner Joe Fields had with *My Sister Eileen*, itself derived from some New Yorker short stories, *Wonderful Town* was written and first staged in 1953, three years before another and tougher musical saga of the New York streets, *West Side Story*, whose producer Hal Prince started out as the stage manager of this one.

But for Chodorov the memories of the show are not all happy ones. "In 1957 there was a television version of it in America, and they asked if they could take my name off the credits because a beer sponsor had objected. I said it would cost them \$75,000 to lose my name so it stayed there, but in those days that was happening a lot. This once, they decided to save the money and nobody wrote in to complain and I'm happy to say that the beer is now out of business, but I guess that was when I realized the tide had begun to turn again."

The tide was of course that of McCarthyism, as Chodorov now recalls. "In 1953 I was living in New York, writing for Broadway, and like a lot of people in those days I had signed my name to a lot of causes. I was never sent a subpoena to appear before the Committee, but word spread that I was not to be used. Luckily for me I had this partner Joe Fields, and he would sign all our scripts because if my name went on any of them we immediately lost the chance of a movie deal. That hurt me, but it didn't kill me."

The second son of one of New York's very few unsuccessful furriers, Chodorov (whose elder brother Edward is still screenwriting at 82) grew up wanting to be in showbusiness. "I started out by being expelled from a number of schools for sheer ignorance. Finally I got a job as an office boy for a producer on Broadway, and the theatre seemed to me like a wonderful life. You didn't have to be educated, could sleep late in the mornings, and it was about the only trade I could find where illiteracy was a positive asset. But when the Depression came I figured I should try for something a little safer, so I went to work as a copy boy on the old New York World and when the drama critic was away one night I wrote Beatrice Lillie her first really terrible Broadway review."

Paul Griffiths

Jerome Chodorov (right) has mixed memories of *Wonderful Town*, of which he was joint author and which opens at the Queen's Theatre on Thursday; but he is back in London for it nevertheless, and talks of his long life to Sheridan Morley

Outlasting the fickle play of fashion

Jerome Chodorov (right) has mixed memories of *Wonderful Town*, of which he was joint author and which opens at the Queen's Theatre on Thursday; but he is back in London for it nevertheless, and talks of his long life to Sheridan Morley

Working in a newspaper drama department in those days was paradise if you were still 18 and stagestruck: free tickets to all the movies and shows, and I even taught myself how to write. But then the paper got sold, so I kept the free theatre passes for a while until box-office managers started to notice. By this time my brother had got established in Hollywood, and after I'd failed to find much other work in New York he took me out there and I started as a junior writer with low-budget studios like Republic."

Republic was where he met up with his future collaborator: "Joe Fields was also on the staff there, and because we were both really theatre men we kept sneaking back to Broadway with scripts, none of which worked out at first. But I'd always been a keen reader of the *New Yorker*, and one time we came across these stories by Ruth McKimney about a couple of girls from the Ohio backwoods who come to Greenwich Village in the 1930s and we decided to turn them into a play. That was the one that made all the difference: *My Sister Eileen* opened in 1940, and from being slaves to the Hollywood mill we were suddenly desirable writers."

"After the war I went back to Hollywood, wrote some more movies and a few plays and one or two musicals, everything from *Anniversary Waltz* through *Tunnel of Love* to *The Girl in Pink Tights*. Then one day Joe and I had a call from a producer asking if we could do *My Sister Eileen* over as a musical for Ros Russell, who had starred in

Theatre in Scotland

Kathie and the Hippopotamus
Traverse, Edinburgh

Mario Vargas Llosa's profound understanding of the human need to intertwine fiction and reality has universally established him as one of the world's finest living novelists. The Traverse's British premiere of his play *Kathie y el Hipopotamo* (fluently translated by Kerry McKenny and Anthony Oliver-Smith) offers a rare opportunity to see the Peruvian writer in a different medium, bringing another, physical dimension into play. *Kathie and the Hippopotamus* uses this to plunge you into the world of the imagination on a very personal level. While we all live inside the fiction of our own remembered lives, Llosa playfully explores what might be gained if individual memories and fantasies could be seen in a collective pool.

It is a deeply humorous and richly ironic work, beginning with a gleeful and cynical excursion into the act of writing itself. In her Parisian attic (a witty, all-embracing set by Bunny Christie) Kathie, a bored rich banker's wife, is writing a travel book. She employs for the purpose Santiago, a fading pseudo-intellectual who churms out purple prose on Citro with disarming ease. The transformation of her memories into his mumbo jumbo is a game that Janet Amnden and Robert Swann play with delightful agility. His words however spark off associations for both of them and gradually the room is peopled with memories of their former selves and respec-

tive spouses, enmeshing them in fantastical intrigues of jealousy and infidelity. As they live through fantasies and fragments from their past, the real reasons for their collaborative creation begin to emerge - both are refugees from their own failed aspirations and empty marriages. The beautiful, complex structure of the play allows Llosa to build memory on memory and fantasy on fantasy, leading us into areas several times removed from the present and into his characters' imaginary worlds. Stephen Unwin's production skilfully navigates these coexisting layers, enjoying the irony that Llosa finds by playing off his characters' limitations and fantasies one against the other.

Slowly it emerges that in the obsessive surfing daydreams of Kathie's rich husband (played with solidifying selflessness by Alan Barker), as in Santiago's half-baked revolutionary ideals and sexual fantasies, lies an escapism that is essential but potentially destructive and morally irresponsible. It is in coming to terms with this in themselves that lies the real substance of Kathie's and Santiago's collaboration. Amnden and Swann control nicely the opposition between their past and the developing curve of their relationship. By the end the gathering maturity they convey gently brings home Llosa's understanding of the moral value of fiction in contributing to the recording and understanding of reality and the enlargement of the mind.

Sarah Hemming

Summer in the City

Haydn fresh and blissful

ASMF/Marriner
Barbican

No other composer after Haydn has been on terms of such easy familiarity with God. Maybe Bruckner was, but if so it was on a level beyond words, whereas Haydn was blissfully able to chatter away in his *Creation*, possibly because he could approach the Almighty on pretty equal terms. By this time he had survived the stupefaction of Mozart, and his musical language was pretty well his own creation: he had laboured in the art for six decades, and was about to spend a seventh in retirement.

Music so blithe, so utterly straightforward in expression, needs careful handling if its

simplicity is not to harden into something ironic or faux-naïf, but on Sunday night, with Sir Neville Marriner conducting the opening event in the Summer in the City festival at the Barbican, there were no worries.

Sir Neville dared to be plain in his phrasing, and dared to let the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields sound natural. There was freshness in the flutes, a nicely officious staccato sometimes from the horns, a rich animal noise from the bassoons in bottom register. The Academy Chorus, too, sang robustly and without fuss. And the solo singing was of the same kind. Margaret Marshall used her golden radiance in such a way that she sounded surprised by herself and by what she was singing about:

Paul Griffiths

Promenade Concert

BBCSO/
Pritchard
Albert Hall/Radio 3

Berlioz's *Grande Messe des morts* is the perfect work for a Promenade Concert. It is big but, despite its earth-shaking timpani chords and its resonant brass-band calls imploring mercy at the gaping jaws of hell, it is not in essence brash. Instead its subtle, even reserved manner - many of its movements begin with a spare line or two and most are predominantly slow and quiet - draws even the inexperienced listener inward to hear its message.

But that message does not quite tally with the text's conventions, for this is a personal view of the universal human problem of facing death rather than a slavish piece of church propaganda or, on the other hand, a secularization of *la Verdi*. All of which is to the work's advantage in an age when individual philosophies count for more than they used to.

Sir John Pritchard's performance, given with a considerably augmented BBC Symphony Orchestra and the small matter of the assembled might of the BBC Symphony Chorus, the London Symphony Chorus and the Pro Musica Chorus, was a spacious one which nevertheless well maintained its momentum. Inevitably there were moments, most conspicuously in the "Rex Tremendae", where the extra

Stephen Pettitt

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TVS are looking for contestants in a new quiz series called 'BRAIN OF THE SOUTH' with the emphasis on mental agility and intellect. Good general knowledge of the history and geography of the TVS region (Dorchester to Dover), plus a specialist subject and the ability to answer questions on anything from music to science to the arts will be required.
If you think you could become one of just 27 people from the Television South region contesting the title 'BRAIN OF THE SOUTH', send your answers to these five questions to The Producer, Brain of the South, TVS, Television Centre, Southampton SO9 5HZ by 8th August.
Q1: What is the name of the long distance footpath which links Birling with Eastbourne?
Q2: Seem girly for the setting of "French Lieutenant's Woman". (Anagram).
Q3: What is the missing number: 1; 5; 14; ___; 55?
Q4: Near which market town was the Duke of Monmouth captured after the 1685 rebellion?
Q5: Wham are here in this Dorset town! (Anagram).
TVS

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1261.5 (-11.9)
FT-SE 100
1545.4 (-16.4)

Bargains
207.70

USM (Datastream)
120.87 (-0.25)

THE POUND

US Dollar
1.4695 (-0.0155)

W German mark
3.0580 (-0.0345)
Trade-weighted
70.7 (-1.7)

Share sale shelved

The four directors of International Leisure who failed to sell many of their shares in the holiday group in the stock market on Friday have made no decision on when to launch another attempt.

Scrimgeour Vickers, the stockbroker, tried to place the 3.5 million shares at about 118p but could not find enough takers. Most of the shares were being sold by Mr Harry Goodman, the chairman. Other sellers were Mr Sidney Perez and the joint deputy chairmen Mr Stephen Matthews and Mr Peter Woodward.

Mr Woodward said: "The directors have a high proportion of their wealth tied up in the shares and decided to reduce their holdings. When we realized we could not place all the shares we decided to abort the exercise. We have made no decision about any future sales."

"The fact that we were selling did not mean that we have reduced our commitment to the company. It was purely a question of taking an investment management view of our shareholdings."

Rush £3.74m

Rush & Tomkins, the building and property company, made profits of £3.74 million before tax in the 15 months to March 31 on turnover of £184 million. In the 12 months to December 31 1984, it made £3.05 million before tax on turnover of £118 million. The final dividend is 2.2p, making a total of 10.7p against 7.7p in 1984. *Tempus, page 16*

Peel up 62%

Peel Holdings, the retail warehouse developer, reports pretax profits of £5.35 million for the year ended March 31, a 62 per cent increase. Interest payable has risen to £3.91 million from £1.43 million. Earnings per share have risen by 65 per cent to 32.89p while net asset value is 450p compared with 377p for the previous year end. *Tempus, page 16*

Coup payment

Mr Peter Laister, the former chairman and chief executive of Thorn EMI ousted in a boardroom coup in July last year, was paid £440,000 compensation, Thorn's annual report revealed. Mr Laister's salary was £152,000.

Stake raised

Glen International, the securities and investment company, has increased its stake in Marler Estates, the property company, to 15.38 per cent, raising bid hopes.

No referral

The acquisition by Cadbury Schweppes of Canvemoor will not be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

Wall Street 16 Traded Opts 17
Dow Jones 16 Money Mkts 17
Cuppy News 16 Unit Trsts 18
Commod 17 Commodities 18
Stock Market 17 USM Prices 18
Foreign Exch 17 Share Prcs 19

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS
New York Dow Jones 1738.88 (-23.76)
Tokyo Nikkei Dow 17263.10 (-21.89)
Hong Kong Hang Seng 1906.28 (+32.17)
Amsterdam Gen 271.4 (+4.4)
Sydney: AO 1120.2 (-4.7)
Frankfurt Commerzbank 1822.4 (-7.7)
Brussels Gener 650.15 (+13.83)
Paris: CAC 379.6 (+0.7)
Zurich: SKA General n/a
London closing prices Page 19

INTEREST RATES
London: Bank Base: 10%
3-month Interbank 10.9%
3-month eligible bills 9.9%
buying rate
Prime Rate 8%
Federal Funds 6 1/2%
3-month Treasury Bills 5.75-5.74%
30-year bonds 9 1/4-9 7/8%

CURRENCIES
London: New York £: \$1.4695
DM: DM3.0580
Sfr: Sfr2.4577
Yen: Yen226.08
Index: 70.7
New York: ECU: ECU 20.688486
SDR: SDR 20.805203

Pubs inquiry will focus on profits

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Prices, margins and profits in brewing appear to be high, Sir Gordon Borrie, director general of Fair Trading, said yesterday as he ordered a new investigation of the industry by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The move, which follows investigations by the commission and subsequently the Price Commission, brought some marking down of brewery shares but mostly by less than the decline in an overall weak London market.

Sir Gordon's decision had been widely expected but it was clear for the first time that four areas have particularly concerned the director general. He has given wide terms of reference to the commission in looking at the supply of beer in Britain for sale on licensed premises. The Commission has to report in two years.

Sir Gordon, in announcing the decision, said: "I have tried to give the commission ample elbow-room to make their investigations particularly into four areas which appear to me to cause concern."

These, he said, were: ● The brewing industry supplies a high proportion of its products through outlets tied to brewers so that competition may be restricted; ● Because of this hold over retail outlets, independent suppliers may face difficulties in marketing their products; ● Consumer choice, particularly in the on-licence trade which consists mainly of pubs, may be limited; ● Prices, margins and profits within the industry appear to be high.

The Brewers' Society, which represents most of the country's brewers, described the inquiry as "totally unnecessary and maintained that it would again be found that the many consumer and other competitive advantages of the British system of pub ownership would outweigh any disadvantages.

But City analysts believe that few of the bigger brewers can afford simply to wait for the outcome of the investigation before taking action to meet a possible scrapping of the tie or at least radical changes to it.

Breweries could be expected to target investment in their tied pubs more sharply which could mean marginally profitable outlets would no longer be supported.

Brewers would also have to look more closely at production capacity to achieve the highest level of efficiency with which to meet the more competitive climate if the tie went. The net result, analysts argue, could mean pub and brewery closures while the monopolies commission is still deliberating.

The brewers plan to spend £2.4 billion on pub improvements over the next three years but in looking at the best investment for a tie-less environment some might turn to putting more cash into building up key brands which could then be expected to sell well through any outlet.

Chase Manhattan stags censured

By Cliff Feltham

Senior executives in Chase Manhattan Securities who made a personal profit in staggings shares in the Windsmoor fashion group, one of their own issues, were ordered last night to hand over all their gains to charity and forbidden from ever dealing again in the shares of their own clients.

The ruling followed an internal investigation by Chase Manhattan after the embarrassing revelation that executives in the group's broking arm, Simon & Coates, was being staggings the issue during the offer for sale.

Chase Manhattan said no one has been sacked as a result of the affair but last night it issued an internal memorandum to staff, pointing out that some employees had applied for shares in the Windsmoor issue and then sold them in the first few days of dealing.

It said it had examined all the circumstances and was satisfied that there was no lack of integrity in the behaviour of any individuals and no one involved in selling shares believed they were acting against the best interests of the client.

"But there were errors of judgement in not recognizing that what happened created the appearance of a conflict of interest and all the parties concerned recognize that this type of situation cannot happen again."

The statement said there was some inadvertent breach of dealing rules and it had decided that all the profits arising out of the transaction are to be turned over to Chase Manhattan who will donate them to charity.

The company has also decided that from now on all dealings in "house stocks" are forbidden, with the exception of sales of existing positions. Profits made by the executives are thought to be around £25,000 to £30,000, implying applications for around £1.6 million of Windsmoor shares.

Rover set to sell Istel

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

Rover Group, formerly BL, has begun the process of privatizing its last remaining fringe activity, the £50 million Istel computer and data processing subsidiary.

Ernst & Whinney, the London firm of accountants, has been appointed to conduct a full study of the Redditch-based company and report to the Rover chairman and chief executive Mr Graham Day within the next few weeks.

A Rover spokesman said: "This is the first step of privatization and the method and timing have not been determined but it will happen as quickly as is practicable."

Because Istel's expertise has been used in the design of BL cars, it is likely that the company will wish to retain a share in the same way that it has in the privatization of the Unipart component and spares company.

Istel employs about 1,200 people in 12 locations in the United Kingdom. It also has a United States subsidiary. The company, previously called BL Systems, was formed in 1979 by bringing together all the computer and data systems activities of British Leyland.

About 30 per cent of its time is spent on Rover Group work, with other customers including rivals Ford and General Motors, ICI, the oil industry and travel companies.

Its last published financial results, for 1984, show a turnover of £37 million and a £1.2 million profit. Since then, sales have risen to £50 million and Rover said it had maintained profitability.

Rover set to sell Istel

Phit hits at rival's 'high risk' assets

By Judith Huntley, Commercial Property Correspondent

Property Holding and Investment Trust has launched a swinging attack on its unwelcome bidder, Greycot Group, a rival property developer.

Mr Arthur John, chairman of Phit, says he would now reject any offer from Greycot, even if higher than the current £108 million bid, because of what he calls the high risk and relatively poor quality of its portfolio compared with Phit's. And Phit, a conservatively valued company, is questioning Greycot's accounting methods.

Phit's defence, unveiled yesterday, highlights the fact that its portfolio, valued at £161 million, is 100 per cent owned and largely freehold. Pearl Assurance, an 18.8 per cent shareholder committed to Phit, has the only joint development in the portfolio. The development programme will reach £45 million by next year and increase to more than £75 million.

By contrast, the Phit board points out that Greycot has only a part interest in many of its schemes, and that it values its interests in subsidiary companies on a pro rata basis and does not discount them as does Phit.

Greycot is a glamour stock because of its high exposure to the booming City of London and West End office markets. Phit, with a 19 per cent exposure to the City and a higher investment in retail property, believes Greycot's aim - for a £500 million development programme is high risk.

Phit is telling its shareholders to reject the Greycot offer as it would result in a 59 per cent drop in income and a 9 per cent dilution of net asset value, last put at 158p per share. Greycot's share price fell below its cash offer for Phit after the announcement of the bid.

Phit's strong financial position, with relatively low gearing, and its sound portfolio make it an attractive buy for Greycot or any other predator if Greycot is not successful. Phit will be canvassing as yet uncommitted institutional shareholders

Manchester Ship Canal cuts losses

The Manchester Ship Canal Company, engaged in fighting off an unwelcome £37 million bid from Highams, the private company of Mr John Whitaker, the chairman of Peel Holdings, has announced its interim results. The move, a week ahead of time, is seen as a defensive measure.

Manchester Ship has cut its pretax loss to £750,000 for the half year to June 30, 1986, compared with £1.88 million for the same period the previous year. Turnover is up at £11.44 million, compared with £10.39 million, with operating profits of £791,000 as opposed to losses of £1.5 million.

Port activities and property were responsible for the improved results. Severance pay of £2.76 million was paid and staff have been reduced by 20 per cent.

Property assets have been revalued at £36 million, an 18 per cent increase. And property income rose to £938,000, compared with £886,000.

UK foreign currency reserves drop \$4m

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Britain's foreign currency and gold reserves recorded a modest fall last month, indicating that the Bank of England had not intervened to support sterling as much as had been thought.

The underlying drop of \$4 million in reserves was considerably less than the \$50 million fall widely predicted in the City.

Analysts had expected the Bank of England to offer more support to the pound as it began to sink against other leading currencies last month. The fall is the first for seven months following a period when official reserves have

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Million-dollar American to head Beecham

By Alison Eadie

Beecham, the pharmaceuticals and consumer products group, yesterday announced the appointment of Mr Robert Bauman, an American, as chairman of the group from September 15. His reputed salary package will be \$1 million (£680,000), making him the second highest paid director in Britain after Mr Richard Giordano, of BOC, who earned £883,000 last year.

Mr Bauman is vice-chairman of Textron Inc, the aerospace technology, commercial products and financial services group.

Lord Keith of Castlecre, the acting chairman of Beecham since Sir Ronald Halstead was ousted in a boardroom coup last November, described Mr Bauman as of the highest calibre. He would not confirm the salary, but said it would be paid in dollars and would be around the level Mr Bauman could command in America.

Sir Ronald, who is now deputy chairman of British Steel, received a salary of £190,000 as chairman and chief executive and received compensation of £407,000 for premature loss of employment.

Beecham also announced the appointment of four new non-executive directors: Sir Robert Clarke, chairman of Hill Samuel; Mr Andrew Buxton, vice-chairman of Barclays Bank; Mr James White, managing director of Bunzl and Sir John Kingman, vice-chancellor of Bristol University. The company is also well down the road towards finding a finance director, Lord Keith said.

The search for an "experienced and highly skilled industrial manager" to head Beecham has been under way since last November. The difficulty of finding a replacement

for Sir Ronald, who was ousted because Beecham's financial performance has been shown in the length of time it has taken to replace him. The beeping up of the board with four eminent non-executives is also a sign that the company believes it is going to stay independent. There have been bid rumours for several months, but Lord Keith said yesterday: "If a bid was going to appear, it would have appeared by now."

Mr Bauman, aged 55, has experience of consumer products and the pharmaceutical

and healthcare industries. He was with General Foods from 1958 to 1981, before moving to Avco Corporation, which was taken over by Textron in 1985. He is also an outside director of McKesson Corporation, the leading value-added distributor of over-the-counter products and prescription drugs in the US.

At the annual meeting last month, Lord Keith, who will resume his former position as non-executive vice-chairman, said Beecham's trading profits in the first quarter this year were ahead of first quarter last year and ahead of internal budgets.

Britain's foreign currency and gold reserves recorded a modest fall last month, indicating that the Bank of England had not intervened to support sterling as much as had been thought.

The underlying drop of \$4 million in reserves was considerably less than the \$50 million fall widely predicted in the City.

Analysts had expected the Bank of England to offer more support to the pound as it began to sink against other leading currencies last month. The fall is the first for seven months following a period when official reserves have

risen by £1.2 billion as the Bank moved to limit sterling's increase against the dollar. Analysts regarded the result as encouraging evidence that the upward pressure on sterling was abating.

The downward pressure on sterling grew stronger during July as a result of continuing weak oil prices and the failure of Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to agree on a common policy.

The figure for actual reserves fell by \$105 million during the month, leaving Britain's reserves at \$19,083 billion (£12,790 billion) compared with \$19,188 billion.



Sir Gordon at his desk yesterday (Photograph: Tim Bishop)



Robert Bauman: Britain's second highest paid director.

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American Turnaround	Oct 79	+22.9% p.a.
Recovery	Apr 82	+25.6% p.a.
Japan & General	Feb 84	+25.7% p.a.
European	Feb 86	+37.3% p.a.

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Argentine call for more talks before Gatt's next round

From Alan McGregor
Geneva

More talks are needed before the next round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) negotiations, Señor Leopoldo Tettamanti, the Argentine trade negotiator, said yesterday.

"If the Punta del Este meeting of ministers to launch a new round of trade liberalization negotiations goes ahead in the present confrontation and lack of consensus, the result will be a weaker, less creditable Gatt," Señor Tettamanti said.

He called either for a reopening of the preparatory committee negotiations here - which ended last Thursday - or, alternatively, a meeting of top government officials at Punta del Este, Uruguay, not less than a week before the ministerial conference begins on September 15.

He accused the US, European Economic Community and Japan of having tried, and failed, to railroad through the committee their concept of what the new round should aim at - ideas only partially agreed to by most Gatt members.

"They have created an ad hoc system outside Gatt," he said, referring to the secretariat's estimate that about 120 negotiated derogations from the agreement now exist. "If, for instance, we do not negotiate properly on agriculture in the new round, Gatt is doomed."

"We should have continued negotiating until consensus evolved, instead of simply passing on to the ministers three different draft declarations, many points of which were not even discussed."

Dow falls in early trade

New York (Reuters) — Shares fell across a broad front in early trading yesterday and investors were worried that a pattern of sharp drops on Mondays, which occurred three times out of four last month, would continue this month.

Analysts also said a sluggish US economy was keeping money managers on the sidelines and that concern over the US Treasury's refinancing, which starts today, dented investors.

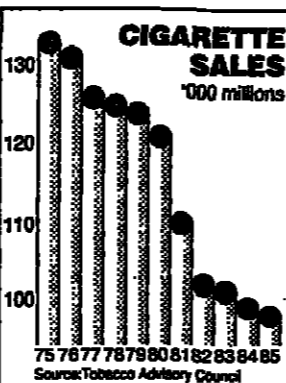
The Dow Jones Industrial

	Aug 1	Jul 31	Aug 1	Jul 31	Aug 1	Jul 31
AMR	51 1/2	51 1/2	51 1/2	51 1/2	51 1/2	51 1/2
ASA	31 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2
AT&T	26 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2
Bank of America	48 1/2	48 1/2	48 1/2	48 1/2	48 1/2	48 1/2
Boeing	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2
Chrysler	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2
IBM	101 1/2	101 1/2	101 1/2	101 1/2	101 1/2	101 1/2
Intel	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2	37 1/2
Microsoft	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2
Motorola	31 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2	31 1/2
Oracle	27 1/2	27 1/2	27 1/2	27 1/2	27 1/2	27 1/2
Qatar	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2
Shell	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2
Spacelink	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2
Union Pacific	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
Walt Disney	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2	9 1/2
Worldwide	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2
Yale	7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2

Poor sales put tobacco groups under pressure

By Derek Harris
Industrial Editor

Cigarette sales are plunging faster than last year and the plight of British manufacturers is being aggravated by increasing imports. Fears are mounting that more jobs in the industry could be at risk as manufacturers look hard at their production capacity.



A price increase, probably adding 2p to a packet of 20 cigarettes, is expected soon, despite the sales slump. It will push a number of brands to the psychological barrier of £1.50 and some leading ones beyond it.

Benson & Hedges king size special filter, Britain's best-selling cigarette made by Gallaher, is already retreating at £1.50.

Imperial Tobacco, now part of Hanson Trust, has already announced an increase of 2p to a pack of five or six small cigars and 1p to each panatella or half-corona size, from August 18.

Gallaher, the second largest British tobacco manufacturer after Imperial, whose Hamlet cigars are Britain's most popular brand, has notified retailers that it will be following Imperial's lead on September 3. Other manufacturers are expected to do the same.

Hamlet, which accounts for four out of every 10 cigars sold in Britain, will cost 2p more at £1.22 for five. The increases are blamed on higher costs. Cigar sales, which have

STC's way ahead looks unclear

TEMPUS

In the absence of a press conference, it must be assumed that STC expects the 1986 interim figures to speak for themselves.

Certainly, they were very good, although at the operating level the improvement was only 15 per cent. The doubling at the pretax level was achieved by a halving of net interest charges to £10.9 million and distortion caused by the inclusion of exceptional items.

STC is dominated by International Computers, which accounted for 63 per cent of turnover and 74 per cent of operating profit. Operating profit increased to £43.2 million compared with £26.3 million last year, despite a lack of buoyancy in the American markets.

Such a large improvement in ICL implies a deterioration in other areas, and it appears that communications has not had a particularly good first half, with turnover down 24 per cent. Sales of transmission products dropped, while Submarine Systems, which is traditionally irregular in its trading pattern, had no deliveries on major contracts.

After containing losses in components and maintaining profits at 1985 levels for the electronics distribution business, both difficult markets, STC must now consider where it goes from here.

Although ICL is the biggest computer manufacturer in Britain, and can count on moral support from Local Government bodies for whom it produces specialized software, there is no formal commitment from Government to support the domestic manufacturer and there is no doubt it is being squeezed by foreign competition.

Performance in the three months to March was worse below the line than above it. The tax bill rose sharply, partly because of the change in the year end which cost £500,000 in extra corporation tax.

As a result there was an after-tax loss, worth 6.2p a share, in the three months to March. For the 15 months earnings per share were only 14.6p against 22.6p for the 12 months to December 1984.

The bad news did not stop there. Reflecting a larger number of shares in issue, net asset backing fell from 377p to 344p a share. This leaves

the shares at 273p, up 3p, trading on a 20 per cent discount to net assets and on a historic multiple of 19 times stated earnings. On both counts they look exposed.

In its defence the company can point to the number of developments due for completion in the current year, including its Aldersgate Street site in London. It promises to announce a new American partner for its property activities on the other side of the Atlantic in the next few weeks.

Those prospects may be enough to satisfy the less curious type of investor.

Peel Holdings, the retail warehouse developer, is disappointed with the revaluation of its retail portfolio which showed only a £7.6 million increase for the year to March 31.

The company expected more but a bullish view on rental growth in the sector, and therefore yields, kept the figure down. Peel expects yields to fall and rent reviews to bring in higher levels in the next few years.

The retail property company is trading at a loss owing to the high cost of borrowings, now refinanced with a £35 million debenture at favourable rates, compared with property yields.

The acquisition for £2.4 million of the Stonehouse Investment company with £19.3 million of assets and £13 million of borrowings gives Peel useful gross income of £4 million a year as well as handy tax losses.

The land holding company, which will be revalued next year, is expected to turn in large capital profits for 1987 as it continues to sell land with planning permission. The proceeds from sales are being reinvested in land with hope value for development. Peel has 250 acres of green belt land in strategic locations as well as 539 acres where no zoning exists.

The company knows that if it is to maintain its phenomenal growth record — asset value has increased by 19.4 per cent this year to 450p per share — it has to hedge its bets over the development of retail warehouses.

Earnings per share have nearly doubled from 19.94p to 32.89p. The dividend is showing a modest rise from 8p to 8.75p for the full year. The market reacted by knocking 5p off the share price to 495p.

Rush & Tomkins had aimed to frustrate inquiring investors, it deserves congratulation. Yesterday it released its results for the 15 months to March, but failed to provide the comparative figures for the same period of the previous year, giving instead the results for the 12 months to December 31, 1984.

It also declined to give a breakdown of profits to show the respective contributions of its varied activities, which take in building, civil engineering and property development and investment. Further, it did not give borrowing figures.

For what it was worth, pretax profits were £3.74 million, implying a contribution of only £580,000 in the three months to March. Rush & Tomkins blames the slowdown on about six unprofitable construction contracts.

Mr Nigel Dunnett, the new finance director, says there will not be any more such contracts. He must have good reasons for making this assertion as life in the building industry is notoriously unpredictable.



At the Opec talks: Belkacem Nabi, the Algerian Energy Minister (left) and Fawzi Shakshuki of Libya

Newsman shun oil crisis conference

Geneva (Reuters) — As Opec's 78th conference began its second week yesterday, the media circus that has charted the oil producers' rise and fall over 26 years was dwindling rapidly. Many newsmen were packing up and leaving.

"We used to be very keen on coming here when Opec was in a crisis, but it has been in crisis for so long it's difficult to maintain interest with viewers back home," one American broadcaster said.

The conference, held at the Intercontinental Hotel in Geneva, began with more than 150 journalists and television crews jostling for a word from the 13 minister-delegates. Now only 20 reporters remain.

In the 1970s, as oil prices soared, more than 300 newsmen regularly followed the Opec saga.

Reporting on Opec's activities tends to reflect the health of the oil market. When prices are high and petrodollars support their national economies, oil ministers willingly speak to reporters.

But the price of crude oil has dropped since last winter from about \$30 a barrel to under \$10 and the ministers — many of them representing poor nations — rarely emerge from their luxurious hotel suites.

When they do, they are usually surrounded by bodyguards and toss no more than a word or two over their shoulders before disappearing into limousines.

Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, representing Saudi Arabia, Opec's largest oil producer, wields massive influence in the group and is consequently the most sought-after minister. Few newsmen penetrate the security surrounding him.

Many reporters have given up trying to breach the wall of silence from delegates dejected by Opec's failure to reach enforceable agreements on how much oil to produce.

On the first day of the conference, television cameras fought for the best shots of ministers. Now a crew from the United Arab Emirates and a local Swiss team can enjoy as many exclusives as they like.

The delegates aim to find ways of boosting prices by cutting Opec's production. But proposed output quotas calculated by Dr Subroto, the Indonesian oil minister, were rejected by several ministers at the first session.

Led by Dr Subroto, some members offered voluntary cuts in their own production. But others rejected these too. By Saturday it was clear there was no chance of agreement.

Traders in HK told to tidy up

From Stephen Leather, Hong Kong

Hong Kong's stock exchange traders are likely to be told to smarten their image before the Queen's visit to the crown colony in October.

Overseas visitors to the exchange which opened in April have been complaining that the traders look shabby compared with their new computer terminals.

The exchange sent out 900 questionnaires asking brokers if the floor traders should wear a shirt, jacket and tie instead of jeans.

Only 250 forms were returned, but more than three-quarters said yes and it now looks certain that the casual image will be banned.

"It is all part of our plan to upgrade the exchange's image, especially with our grand opening coming up in October," said Dr Anita Leung, for the exchange.

"We have quite a lot of overseas visitors who travel around the world and so have seen many of the exchanges. They think our trading hall is most impressive but some of them suggested that the floor traders should put on a shirt and tie instead of jeans."

The "smarten up" issue arises at a time when many of the 615 members of the stock exchange are finding it difficult to make money, even though the Hong Kong stock market reached a record high last week.

With the banks and financial institutions now doing most of the trading on the new computerized exchange, the independent brokers are having to settle for crumbs.

The chairman of the Hong Kong Stockbrokers Association, Mr David Tung, is predicting that the number of actively trading stockbrokers could soon fall to 300.

He says that only 300 can be trading profitably, even with the assets of the former HK\$477 million (£40 million), and a further 200 are just about breaking even. The rest are in the red, he says.

Mr Tung has produced figures which show that the minimum costs for each trading stockbroker are about HK\$3,000 a day.

'Pound will fall 15% against mark'

British exports could recover markedly, as sterling declines by a further 15 per cent against the mark over the next 18 months, the National Westminster Bank says in its report, *Economic and Financial Outlook*, published today.

Other main forecasts by Mr David Kern, the manager and chief economist, are:

- British base rates at 9 per cent at the end of the year and 9 1/2 per cent at the end of 1987.
- The pound at \$1.40 and DM2.94 at end of the year and \$1.32 and DM2.69 at the end of 1987.
- Britain's real GDP to grow by 2.5 per cent this year and 3 per cent next.
- The dollar at DM2.10 and Y155 at end of the year and DM2.04 and Y149 at the end of 1987.

Since a precipitate decline in real interest rates is one of the main mechanisms which might trigger an inflationary upsurge, Mr Kern thinks it will be necessary for real British rates to remain fairly high over the next few years, both in relation to historical levels and when compared with rates in other major countries.

With British inflation likely to edge upwards slightly next year, once the impact of cheaper oil and lower mortgage rates wears off, nominal interest rates seem unlikely to fall below 9 per cent.

Meanwhile, the British economy is still weak, and further expansionary measures are clearly justified. However, Mr Kern remains convinced that the most effective

and prudent way of stimulating demand in the United Kingdom is by combining a moderate decline in the exchange rate and a more expansionary fiscal stance, while keeping real interest rates fairly high.

The massive US external deficit and the corresponding large surpluses of Japan and Germany are threatening world economic stability.

The sizeable fall in the dollar that has already occurred will eventually reduce, but seems unlikely to eliminate, these huge imbalances. Powerful protectionist pressures will inevitably intensify and Mr Kern emphasizes that radical measures will be needed to deal with these problems.

Letts Green Estate is offering 15p each for outstanding shares in Gilbert House Investments. There is an alternative offer of £1 of Letts Green 6 per cent unsecured loan note 1990.

Letts Green, which is owned by family interests of Mr TF Parrett, the chairman of Gilbert House, already owns 30.99 per cent of Gilbert. Mr and Mrs Parrett own a further 49.33 per cent. Mrs RJ Campbell, a director of both companies, will accept for her 3.12 per cent.

The offer is conditional on acceptances being received to take the Letts Green stake above 90 per cent.

Indonesian think tank urges state sell-off

Jakarta (Reuters) — Most of Indonesia's state-owned companies should be sold to the private sector to make them more efficient and competitive, the director of a government "think tank" urged yesterday.

Raja Pande Silalahi, studies director at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, said privatization would relieve the government of the burden of financing these companies and generate funds needed for development.

The Indonesian government has been forced to cut its development spending by 22 per cent in the 1986-87 financial year, mainly because of falling world oil prices. Oil and gas tax revenue accounts

APPOINTMENTS

- Wills Group: Mr Derek Mills has joined the board as a non-executive director.
- Macarthy's Pharmaceuticals: Mr John Baseley becomes group distribution director.
- JDK Publicity Consultants: Mr Keith Buckland has been made a director.
- International Military Services: Mr NAD Sharwell becomes managing director, succeeding Mr EE Bridges.
- Mr GL Bradbury has been made finance director and Mr CM Chandler a non-executive director.
- Trico Products Corporation: Mr Rene M Van Dyck joins the board.
- M & W Mack: Mr Christopher Mack is named as joint managing director with Mr Tony Wolff, succeeding Mr Donald Mack.
- United Kingdom Provision Trade Federation: Mr Leslie Broadhurst has been elected chairman.
- IGT Credit Corporation: Mr Peter Schneider becomes managing director.
- Greenfell & Cotgrave: Mr David Cole has been made an executive director.
- Rank Theatres: Mr Jim Whitwell is named managing director from September 1.
- Rank Screen Advertising: Mr Peter Howard Williams and Mr Neville Harris become directors.
- Rank Film Distributors: Mr George Heyer has been made a director.
- Rank Audio Visual: Mr Peter Ross becomes a director.

BRITISH TRANSPORT ADVERTISING

British Transport Advertising (BTAD), a division of British Railways Board (BRB), and British Transport Advertising Limited (BTAL), a joint subsidiary of BRB and the National Bus Company (NBC), market, sell and service commercial advertising on sites at BRB stations and other BRB property and for NBC and other principals.

BRB and BTAL are seeking offers for this business. It is hoped to complete new arrangements by 30 September 1986, and accordingly, interested parties are requested to write to the address below no later than 15 August 1986.

Mr J. B. Mander
British Railways Board
Room 181
222 Marylebone Road
LONDON NW1 6JJ

Any further information will be supplied solely at the discretion of BRB.

THIS ADVERTISEMENT DOES NOT AND IS NOT INTENDED TO FORM THE BASIS OF ANY OFFER OF THE UNDERTAKING OR ASSETS OF BTAD OR BTAL.

COMPANY NEWS

MICROLEASE: The company has set up a subsidiary in Dublin as part of its plans for expansion into Europe. Microlease Ltd will begin trading on September 1 and will be headed by Mr Brendan Farrell.

HODGSON HOLDINGS: The company has agreed terms for the acquisition of Cooks Funeral Service of Chesham, Bucks and Malcolm Jones Funeral Service in Berkhamstead, Herts. Joint consideration is £300,000. The two firms should add 500 funerals a year (about 9 per cent) to the Hodgson total. The takeover will not be completed in time to affect the October results.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND BANKING GROUP: The company has announced an offer by its wholly-owned subsidiary ANZ Holdings (New Zealand) to acquire all the share capital in ANZ Banking Group (New Zealand) (ANZ NZ). The ANZ Group holds 74.2 per cent of ANZ (NZ) with the balance held by the New Zealand public. ANZ Group intends to maintain local incorporation and an effective local board in New Zealand, with a strong non-executive emphasis. Holders in ANZ (NZ) are being offered an outright cash payment of NZ\$3.75 a share or 7 ANZ Group shares for every 10 ANZ (NZ) shares.

BARRE INVESTMENTS & FINANCE: The board has entered into conditional agreements for the disposal of its property at 187/211 St. John Street, London, EC1. The property was auctioned on June 18 and the highest bid was £1.95 million. A higher offer of £2.05 million was received later, which Barrie's board has declined. It has also been accepted. It has entered into two agreements for the sale of the property, both conditional upon Barrie shareholders' approval. Proceeds of the sale after discharging the £719,000 mortgage on the property and associated costs will be used to meet cash and working capital requirements resulting from Barrie's increased business.

FORMINSTER: The company purchased for cancellation 2,500 ordinary shares at 200p on August 1. This represents about 0.07 per cent and leaves 3,355,744 shares in issue.

JOHN CROWTHER GROUP: The assets of White Heather Floorcoverings have been acquired from Courtauld Distributors for £500,000 cash. Maydella Manufacturing has been acquired for £350,000 cash, with a maximum performance-related deferred price of £375,000. Maydella makes children's wear for Marks and Spencer and will form part of Crowther's clothing division.

AMBROSE INVESTMENT TRUST: At close of business on July 31 the approximate asset value of each capital share was 476.79p compared with 503.76p in June.

COMMERCIAL BANK OF THE NEAR EAST: For the six months to June 30, gross income was £1,508,734 (£1,268,011). Pretax profit was £186,528 (£175,000).

SCAPA GROUP: The group has increased its holding in Textil Guisano, a Spanish industrial textile company, from 16.5 to 98 per cent. The cost of the investment is £1.7 million.

TRICOB INVESTMENT TRUST: First quarter to June 30. Pretax profit: £6.3 million (£5.96 million).

BASE LENDING RATES

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Adam & Company	10.00%
BCCI	10.00%
Citibank Savings	10.75%
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Continental Credit	10.00%
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C. Hoare & Co	10.00%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	10.00%
Lloyds Bank	10.00%
Mid Westminister	10.00%
Royal Bank of Scotland	10.00%
TSB	10.00%
Citibank NA	10.00%

↑ Mortgage Base Rate.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Ibstock Johnson jumps 8p on hopes of bid by Steetley

By Michael Clark

Shares of Ibstock Johnson, the facing brick manufacturer, jumped 8p to 176p yesterday amid growing speculation that the long-awaited bid for the market had been pinning its hopes on the way.

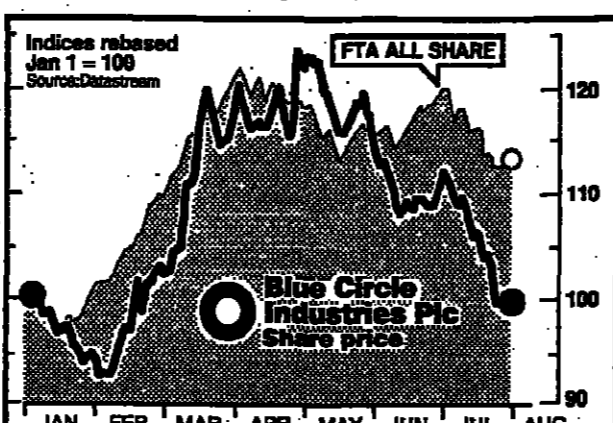
Word is that Steetley, the building products group which itself escaped a £115 million bid from Hepworth Ceramic in 1982 after it was blocked by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, is planning to make an offer.

Dealers say that Steetley is ready to make an opening bid of at least 200p a share which would value Ibstock at more than £160 million.

Barton Group, down 2p at 276p, may be ready to sell Hamleys, the toy shop chain it acquired with Debenhams. Sir Philip Harris's Harris Queensway has expressed interest, but I suspect it will go to Woolworth. Analysts believe Hamleys could command a price of almost £20 million.

Ibstock was the target of rival bids in 1982 by London Brick and Redland, both of which were referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. This enabled Ibstock to build up its defence. Redland later dropped out of the bidding before the Monopolies and Mergers Commission was able to deliver its verdict.

London Brick was later given the go-ahead to bid, but also decided to drop out of the running and was later swallowed up itself by Hanson Trust.



Oil shares attempted to rally towards the close as the buzz went round the market that the Opec conference in Geneva was close to an agreement on production levels. There were suggestions that output had been restricted to 16 million barrels a day. The price of US crude oil on the spot market responded with a rise of \$1.50 to \$12, but conditions remained nervous.

RECENT ISSUES

Table listing recent issues including Hile Ergonon (52p), Ashley (1135p), and others with their respective prices and changes.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table of London financial futures including Three Month Sterling, Three Month Eurodollar, and US Treasury Bond with open, high, low, and close prices.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table of foreign exchange rates for Sterling Spot and Forward Rates, and Other Sterling Rates.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table of traditional options including First Dealings, Last Dealings, and Last Declaration.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Large table of London traded options for various stocks like Allied Lyons, BP, and others, showing series, calls, puts, and prices.

MONEY MARKET AND GOLD

Table of money market and gold rates, including Base Rates, Treasury Bills, and Gold prices.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

TSB, the bank that likes to say maybe

Like a rash that will not go away, the problem of who owns the Trustee Savings Bank has reappeared with renewed virulence and threatens to prove a deep embarrassment for the Government. It is too early to say what the precise consequences of last week's House of Lords' ruling on the ownership of the TSB will be, though it is unlikely to put a stop to the bank's flotation altogether.

Base rate cut on horizon

August may not turn out to be such a wicked month after all. Suddenly there is a hint of cheaper money in the air, though it may be into early September before the clearing banks are finally persuaded to lower their base rates.

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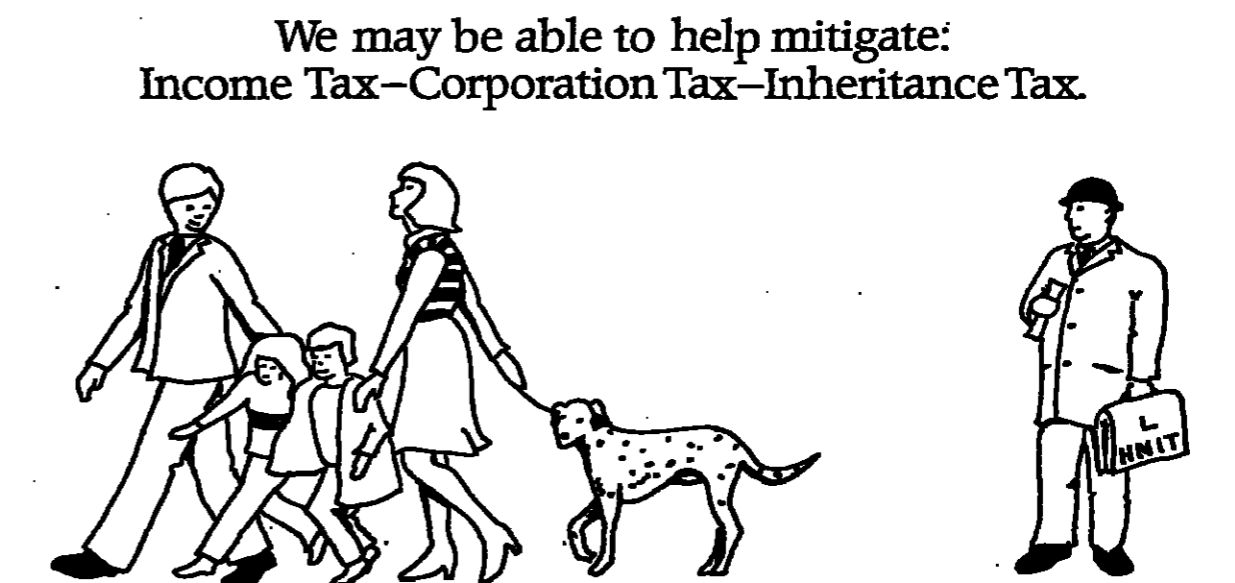
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Alternatively, if you require further information regarding our practice, please contact Patrick Rushmore. MACINTYRE HUDSON Chartered Accountants

BASE LENDING RATES

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table containing unit trust information, including columns for '1986' and '1985' with sub-columns for 'Company', 'Price', 'Gross', 'Net', 'P/E', and 'Yield'. It lists various unit trusts and their performance metrics.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table of unlisted securities, organized by company name and listing price. Includes columns for 'Company', 'Price', 'Gross', 'Net', 'P/E', and 'Yield'.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of investment trusts, organized by company name and listing price. Includes columns for 'Company', 'Price', 'Gross', 'Net', 'P/E', and 'Yield'.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices, including sections for 'LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE', 'LONDON METAL EXCHANGE', 'LONDON MEAT FUTURES', 'LONDON POTATO FUTURES', 'LONDON GRAIN FUTURES', and 'LONDON LIVESTOCK'. It lists various commodities and their current market prices.

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figures published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Table with columns: No., Company, Group, Gain or Loss. Lists various companies like Shell, ICI, and others with their share prices and changes.

Please be sure to take account of any minus signs.

Weekly Dividend. Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £16,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

Table with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, Total. Shows daily dividend amounts.

BRITISH FUNDS

Table with columns: High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists various British funds like Anglo-Siam and Anglo-American.

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists short positions for various companies.

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists short positions for companies with 5-15 year maturities.

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists short positions for companies with over 15 year maturities.

UNDATED

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists undated short positions.

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists bank discount rates.

INDEX LINKED

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists index-linked investments.

ELECTRICALS

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists electrical companies.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES Equities drift

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began July 28. Dealings end on Friday. Contango day next Monday. Settlement day August 18. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

BREWERIES

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists breweries like Asahi-Lagers and Beck's.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists building and road companies like Abertan Concor.

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists chemical and plastic companies like ICI and Anglo-Siam.

CINEMAS AND TV

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists cinema and TV companies like Anglo TV.

DRAPERY AND STORES

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists drapery and store companies like Asda.

ELECTRICALS

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists electrical companies like Asda.

FINANCE AND LAND

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists finance and land companies like Anglo-Siam.

FOODS

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists food companies like Anglo-Siam.

HOTELS AND CATERERS

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists hotels and caterers like Anglo-Siam.

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists industrial companies A-D.

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists industrial companies E-K.

INDUSTRIALS L-R

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists industrial companies L-R.

INSURANCE

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists insurance companies like Anglo-Siam.

LEISURE

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists leisure companies like Anglo-Siam.

MINING

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists mining companies like Anglo-Siam.

MOTORING AND AIRCRAFT

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists motoring and aircraft companies like Anglo-Siam.

SHIPPING

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists shipping companies like Anglo-Siam.

SHOES AND LEATHER

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists shoes and leather companies like Anglo-Siam.

OVERSEAS TRADERS

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists overseas traders like Anglo-Siam.

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists paper, printing, and advertising companies like Anglo-Siam.

PROPERTY

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists property companies like Anglo-Siam.

TEXTILES

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists textile companies like Anglo-Siam.

TOBACCO

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists tobacco companies like Anglo-Siam.

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TOBACCO

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists tobacco companies like Anglo-Siam.

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists newspapers and publishers like Anglo-Siam.

SHIPPING

Table with columns: 1958 High Low, Company, Price, Gain or Loss, % P/E. Lists shipping companies like Anglo-Siam.

FINANCIAL TRUST... (Vertical text on the left margin)

© Ex dividend a Ex ad b Forecast dividend a Interest payment passed if Price at settlement b Dividend and valid include a special payment c Pre-merger figures d Forecast earnings a Ex other b Ex other c Ex other d share split 1 Tax-free No significant data.

Edited by Matthew May

COMPUTER HORIZONS

Classroom technology takes a spanking

There is no doubt that Britain is rapidly heading towards an information society. What is equally clear is that it is totally unprepared for the task.

demographic changes, while contractions in the education service are leading to an ageing teacher population and reduced career prospects.

THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone Technology Correspondent

The crux of the ITAP report is that the education system should gear itself to the needs of an information-based society where technical skills will be required even for the most modest occupation.

computers themselves, as small, cheap but personal microcomputers, are developing as a major - perhaps dominant - element in the influence which IT will have on the future of education.

The ITAP report also matches some of the conclusions from a report by the Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD). The report, about IT in education, surveyed the developments within the OECD countries.



Colin Baigent, an Oxford medical student doing research at the UK Transplant Service, with some of the patient records which are being transferred to computer. Mr Baigent was the recipient of a kidney transplant.

Time life-saver on vital transplants

By Matthew May

A new version of a computer system installed at an organization that distributes kidneys and hearts for transplant is speeding up the process of choosing suitable patients in the crucial hours after a donor becomes available.

most suitable patient to a donor within three minutes. Whenever a kidney becomes available the computer chooses the 30 best matched patients in Britain for the transplant along with the 10 most suitable local patients.

'Made in Taiwan' threat

Cheap personal computers from Taiwan are becoming an increasing threat to what is left of the micro industry in Britain. The British Microcomputer Manufacturers Group says its members have become increasingly puzzled about how the manufacturers out there manage to sell at such amazingly low prices.

£150 million giving a 38 per cent increase in profit for the past year to June. It is a much better performance than analysts expected and a sharp contrast to the industry's largest company IBM which recently turned in a 7.7 per cent decline in quarterly profits.

Teenage tapper

A teenager has been charged in Cleveland for allegedly tapping into computer systems across the United States, including one used by Congress. The boy is said to have used long-distance telephone lines to hook up to the school systems in Milwaukee and Texas.

COMPUTER BRIEFING

Data ignorance

The speed with which British companies adopt technology is being threatened by the Government and the computer industry paying insufficient attention to data security, says Peter Jenner, author of a new 36-page booklet on the subject.

Good performance

Digital Equipment, the world's third largest computer company, has reported fourth-quarter earnings more than double to

Take five

Tandy, America's largest retailer of consumer electronic products has introduced five IBM-compatible personal computers that seem likely to step up the already rapid price-cutting throughout the personal computer industry.



'Visitors find him boring. But he saves us a fortune in office staff'

West German slot

The Federal Cartel Office in West Germany has approved plans by the Italian office equipment maker Olivetti to buy Triumph-Adler, West Germany's leading producer of electronic typewriters from Volkswagen.

COMPUTER APPOINTMENTS

MVS operations/ systems programming background SOFTWARE SUPPORT ENGINEERS Computer Associates is one of the world's largest systems software companies, with over 50% on all IBM mainframes running our products.

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Inspecting the books. The belief by the American government that it can restrict the use of advanced computers only to those it approves of continues to cause controversy, Matthew May writes.

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IBM AT/E, 20mb, £2850! IBM Personal Computer AT/E, 512k RAM, IBM 20mb hard disk, 1.2mb floppy drive, monochrome display, mono/prnter adaptor, clock, UK keyboard, manuals and Basic. New XT/5FD, 20mb complete, £2150. Reduced price on PC-C complete, £1050.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

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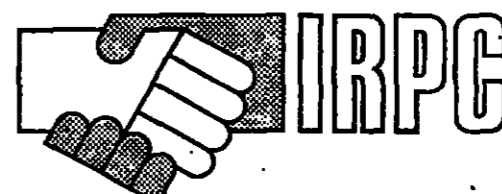
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LEGAL APPOINTMENTS... PERSONAL... CRUISE & SAIL ABROAD... RENTALS

Equity's apartheid ban is unlawful

Goring v British Actors Equity Association

Before Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor (Judgment given July 29)

A decision by Equity, the defendant trade union, following a referendum of its members, to issue an instruction to all members not to accept professional engagements which involved working in South Africa or its dependent homelands, was declared *ultra vires* and void as being unauthorized by the rules of the union. Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor, held in the Chancery Division, in an action brought by Mr Marius Goring.

Mr David A. Lowe, Q.C. and Mr Thomas Seymour for Mr Goring; Mr John V. Martin for Equity.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR said that a resolution at the 1985 annual meeting included a call for a union instruction to members not to work in South Africa and its dependent homelands.

In March 1986 the council of the union held a referendum of all the members to whom the question was put. Of a total membership of 32,000, only 3,320 voted in favour and 13,744 (including the plaintiff) against the issuing of the instruction.

Accordingly in April 1986 the council issued the following instruction: "Henceforth until this instruction is lifted no member shall accept professional engagements which involve working in South Africa or its dependent homelands."

Once issued, such an instruction was binding on the members, and a member failing to comply with it could be fined, suspended or expelled from the union. Since for all practical purposes the theatrical entertainment industry was a closed shop, membership of the union being a pre-requisite of employment, suspension or expulsion would be a dire penalty for any member.

In the action the plaintiff was suing on behalf of himself and all other members who voted against the issuing of the instruction. He claimed a declaration that the instruction

was *ultra vires* the union and void on the ground that it was not authorized by the rules.

Before turning to the rules, one point had to be made clear. The major underlying consideration in the case was the attitude which the union should adopt towards apartheid in South Africa. On both sides of the dispute, everyone concerned was in agreement on this point.

But there were two views on how best to bring it speedily to an end. One was that there should be a complete cultural boycott of South Africa (extending well beyond the entertainment industry) so as to isolate South Africa and put pressure on its government to dismantle the system. The other view was that cultural links and "bridge building" would be more effective in breaking down the system from within.

Both these views were lawful: the court's function was to decide whether it was lawful for the union not to adopt the cultural boycott view but also to require members not sharing that view to give effect to it by refusing engagements in South Africa on pain of possible suspension or expulsion.

In coming to the rules, there were first certain points of principle which should not be lost sight of. The relationship between members of a trade union which had contracted the terms of which were contained in the rules.

If a particular decision fell within the objects of the trade union as set out in the rules, each member was bound by its contract with the other members to give effect to that decision.

On the other hand, the decision did not fall within the objects, there was no contractual or other legal obligation on any member to give effect to it.

Alterations could be made to the rules (and therefore the contract between the members) but only by a majority of the members. Changes laid down in the existing rules had been complied with.

Accordingly, although most trade unions were organized on a majority basis (that is, the majority decisions prevailed),

the majority could only bind the minority, and the rules which were the objects of the union to which the members had agreed.

The question therefore was whether the plaintiff and those others who shared his views had bound themselves to accept an instruction that they should not appear in South Africa.

The current rules of the union were contained in clause 3 under the heading "Objects, Powers and Duties". The material parts were:

"A. Objects. As a non-political and non-sectarian union: (i) to promote, protect and further on a professional basis the art of theatre, variety, opera, dancing, films, broadcasting and similar forms of entertainment; (ii) to promote, protect and further the artistic, economic and social interests of its members in their professional capacity; (iii) to maintain the professional rights and liberties of its members individually and collectively; (iv) to secure by organization, and all other effective methods, unity of action to achieve the best possible terms and conditions of work in all fields in which members are engaged."

"B. Powers and Duties. (a) To issue all necessary instructions to the members, through its elected council, in accordance with the above objects... (d) to take any lawful action the council (as governing body) may deem advisable and desirable to promote the above objects, and to promote and further the professional interests of its members... (n) to cooperate with kindred organizations societies or associations... but at no time to affiliate... to any political party or sect, or to any organization, society or association which is affiliated to any political party or sect; (o) to acknowledge the right of individual members to hold and express their personal political and other beliefs both in their private and professional capacities."

The introductory words of rule 3A — "as a non-political and non-sectarian union" — were of crucial importance in the case and would be referred to as the preamble.

The evidence sworn on behalf of the plaintiff showed that the instruction, if valid, would seriously affect the professional lives of some members of the union; some members lived there; others frequently appeared there only from time to time.

The evidence on the other side had been directed to showing that the instruction fell within the legitimate ambit of the union's objects since it was capable of directly promoting the professional interests of some of its members in various ways.

The decision in the case depended on the proper construction of the words of the preamble: when read in conjunction with rule 3B(o) the words of the preamble, in the court's view, were two sides of a coin. Rule 3B(o) made clear the duty to respect the rights of an individual to hold and express his individual beliefs; the preamble assumed that that duty to the individual member was observed by limiting the objects of the union to those activities which were undertaken for professional purposes and did not extend to those which were purely political or sectarian purposes which might conflict with the individual views and beliefs of the individual members.

That this was the right construction was demonstrated by an example of theatre grants, which were a party political issue. If the matter was looked at purely objectively, it would not be permissible to support, inaction which had the effect of promoting a party political issue and therefore outside the ambit of the union's legitimate activities.

The only way of reconciling the two sides of the coin was to look to the specific purposes in each of the sub-rules of rule 3A to which the preamble was to be taken.

It was to be taken for the purpose of advancing pro-

fessional interests, that would be authorized; but if the purpose was to advance the cause of the party, it would not be authorized, for to take such action would be to act as a party political union. Accordingly, the purpose with which an act was done was decisive.

That construction was supported by a consideration of past amendments to the rules. The union existed to promote the professional interests of its members stated in the sub-rules of rule 3A.

Activities undertaken for those purposes were not to be precluded by the words of the preamble. But activities undertaken for the purpose of advancing a party political or sectarian viewpoint were not authorized just because an ingenious mind could find ways in which they might advance the interests of the members in a remote degree.

If that view was right so far, if an activity of the union was impugned on the ground that it was party political or sectarian, there was no escape from having to determine the primary purpose of the activity.

It was accepted that in some cases where the activity had been directly sanctioned by a referendum, the words of the preamble presented great difficulties. But, in the present case, there was no doubt the purpose was sectarian.

In the language of the 1985 AGM resolution, the redolent of a boycott for the purpose of putting an end to apartheid; there was no mention of professional interests.

The absence of any evidence to the contrary, the only purpose of the instruction which had been demonstrated was to promote a general cultural boycott of South Africa (a sectarian purpose), not for the purpose of promoting the professional interests of the members.

Accordingly, the instruction prohibiting members from appearing in South Africa was void as being *ultra vires* the powers of the union, and a declaration would be made to that effect.

Solicitors: Ambrose Appelle Partners; Ms Ruth Gurny.

John Goodbody on the rise of Canadian sport



Fastest in the world: sprinter Johnson (left) and swimmer Baumann

How a scratch side got the Olympic itch

Canada's sporting talent, for so long as dormant as a slumbering bear in the Rocky Mountains, has awoken. The world respects their power and potential. Men like the sprinter Ben Johnson, conqueror of Carl Lewis, the swimmer Alex Baumann are universally admired.

In 1960 Canada took only one medal at the Olympics. Australia won 36 and Britain 20. In the Commonwealth Games which ended in Edinburgh on Saturday, Canada collected 51 gold medals, just one fewer than England and 11 more than Australia.

At the last Olympics, Canada had top six placings in 26 of the 31 summer and winter sports — far more than their Commonwealth rivals.

As Abigail Hoffman, a competitor of four Olympics and now a Director-General of Sport Canada, the government supported organization says: "There have been occasions when we have stumbled. But our performances in Edinburgh are the result of 20 years of effort."

One stumbling block was the 1976 Olympics in Montreal when Canada had to look outside the country for qualified coaches. Three Britons, Geoff Elliott, Geoff Gowen, now president of their coaches association, and perhaps saddest of all Geoff Dyson, the national athletics coach scorned by Britain, gave Canada much of their technical basis. As Frank Dick, Britain's current director of athletic coaching said: "Our national coaching foundation has been crucial ever since the disaster of the 1960 Olympics and the country's lack of physical fitness which stimulated some harsh words from the Duke of Edinburgh that year."

The Government acted, although progress was slow until the mid 1970s. During the 60s Canada had to look outside the country for qualified coaches. Three Britons, Geoff Elliott, Geoff Gowen, now president of their coaches association, and perhaps saddest of all Geoff Dyson, the national athletics coach scorned by Britain, gave Canada much of their technical basis. As Frank Dick, Britain's current director of athletic coaching said: "Our national coaching foundation has been crucial ever since the disaster of the 1960 Olympics and the country's lack of physical fitness which stimulated some harsh words from the Duke of Edinburgh that year."

Canada also established a "carding" system of Government payment to outstanding individuals. A competitor ranked in the top eight in the world automatically gets £320 a month. A "B-card" competitor ranked 8-16 globally receives £270 a month. A "C-card" competitor gets £225 a month. Currently 750 people are funded in this way.

The clarity of the system is attractive. As the British steeplechaser, Graeme Fell, who emigrated to Canada for whom he won the gold medal in Edinburgh, says: "This made a big influence on my decision to become Canadian. You know exactly where you are."

Canada have overcome immense difficulties to achieve their new status. Ken Porter, the assistant general team manager, points out that there is a poor quality of physical education in schools while half the Government grants have to go in air fares. This is because the country is so vast and also international experience is needed in the United States and Europe. It cost £200,000 to transport horses to Europe for an equestrian event.

Canada have not set up general sports centres, unlike Britain. This would diversify the talent. Instead they have specialist centres, usually at universities and funded by the provincial governments, which attract competitors.

The decathlon is at Toronto; sprinting at York University; while boxing is based in four cities.

Taylor Gordon, coach of the boxing team which took six gold medals in Edinburgh, says: "We have achieved our success despite our lack of numbers. The Americans have more people boxing in the Royal Marines than we have in the whole of Canada. Canada now have three full time professional coaches, and hope for five by 1988."

Anstralia have now started copying some of Canada's programmes. Even East Germany have come and admired. Porter says: "When their coaches came and saw some of what we were doing, they almost slit their throats."

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The Government acted, although progress was slow until the mid 1970s. During the 60s Canada had to look outside the country for qualified coaches. Three Britons, Geoff Elliott, Geoff Gowen, now president of their coaches association, and perhaps saddest of all Geoff Dyson, the national athletics coach scorned by Britain, gave Canada much of their technical basis. As Frank Dick, Britain's current director of athletic coaching said: "Our national coaching foundation has been crucial ever since the disaster of the 1960 Olympics and the country's lack of physical fitness which stimulated some harsh words from the Duke of Edinburgh that year."

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Degrees awarded by the University of Reading

The following degrees from Reading University are announced:

Faculty of Letters and Social Sciences

BA

Class 2 (Div 1): C Gordon; J Hayes; P Hagan; A Mason; A M Mattinger; M Mearns; J Shaw; J S. Williams; J C Williams

Class 2 (Div 2): P Cannon; A E Irwin; L Smith; J. Williams

Class 2 (Div 3): C Lancaster

Class 2 (Div 4): J. Williams

Class 2 (Div 5): J. Williams

Class 2 (Div 6): J. Williams

Class 2 (Div 7): J. Williams

Class 2 (Div 8): J. Williams

Class 2 (Div 9): J. Williams

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Class 2 (Div 49): J. Williams

Class 2 (Div 50): J. Williams

Faculty of Science

BA

Class 2 (Div 1): J. Williams

Class 2 (Div 2): J. Williams

Class 2 (Div 3): J. Williams

Class 2 (Div 4): J. Williams

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Class 2 (Div 49): J. Williams

Class 2 (Div 50): J. Williams

Faculty of Agriculture and Food

BA

Class 2 (Div 1): J. Williams

Class 2 (Div 2): J. Williams

Class 2 (Div 3): J. Williams

Class 2 (Div 4): J. Williams

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Class 2 (Div 16): J. Williams

RACING Eddery on the double as he puts on pressure in championship race

By Mandarin Pat Eddery, now a long odds-on chance to become champion jockey for the first time since 1977, is certainly piling on the pressure today. After riding in the afternoon at Brighton where he has an outstanding chance of landing a double on Larries Warrior (3.0) and on Veilla (2.6), the man in the news flies to Ayr, where other likely winning mounts await him. Veilla, beaten only a short head by Color Artist at Windsor, had previously run a sound race on the first appearance of her career at Sandown, where, after missing the break The Minstrel filed came home strongly to take second place to landing Lily. Veilla's form reads far superior to that of Red Riding Hood and Miss Runaway in the Afriston Maiden Stakes. Larries Warrior runs in the day feature race, the £6,000 Duke of Norfolk Memorial Nursery. The selection appears to have been set a formidable task with 9st 6lb to carry in this two-year-old handicap, but has been shown steadily progressive form for Ron Boss and was particularly impressive when winning at Sandown Park last time out. In what promises to be a competitive affair with Press, Oloros, Malle and Divine, Veilla's chances, though still looks worth a sporting bet. Another sound wager on the Sussex seaside track could be Foot Patrol in the Burroughs Computers Handicap (3.0). Peter Cundell's five-year-old loves Brighton's switchback course and can record his fourth track and distance success at the expense of Joyful Dancer and Meet The Greek. Eddery's outstanding mount after his long flight north must be on Verard in the Heads of Ayr Stakes (8.45). At Kempton in mid-July, William Hastings-Bass's three-year-old beat one of Henry Cecil's hot pots in the shape of Merano and should have little to fear from his only two opponents. In the Cunningham Handicap at 7.15 the champion elect rides Absence of Malice. Ben Hanbury's three-year-old showed the ability to win this kind of race when beaten only three-quarters of a length by Swifts Pal at Salisbury. However Gibberish, finished in front of Space Trooper at a recent meeting on this track and is preferred. At Redcar, Princess Anne has her first chance, to date, of riding a winner on Gulland in the Mommessin Amateur Riders Stakes (3.45). Gavin Pritchard-Gordon has already placed the five-year-old successfully in two of his last three outings. But Positive, who finished runner-up to Stately Form at Epsom in the best horse in the race and with Tim Thomson Jones in the saddle will be desperately hard to overcome. Another sound bet on the Yorkshire course will be Paleface in the 4.45. Lester Piggott's two-year-old was beaten with some degree of ease when runner-up to Wolsey at Leicester. However Paleface should still be the pick of the weights in the



Princess Anne, hoping for her first win at Redcar on Gulland today

Veritable delights on Children's day Storming home

Veritable, who drifted in the market from 5-4 on to 6-4 against favourite, cruised to a two length victory from Tamatour in the Children's Day Maiden Stakes at Ripon yesterday. In the carnival atmosphere of a "Children's Day" charity meeting, Glenn French, the 27-year-old jockey from Zimbabwe, took Veritable into the lead from the start and was never held throughout the furlong race. The winner previously finished runner-up to the useful Celestial Storm at Newmarket. Pat Haslam, the winning trainer said: "I think Veritable will go well over one and a half miles." For The Crown established a new record selling price at the course when the colt was bought in for 7,500 guineas after the See-Saw Selling Stakes. The winner, who was powerfully ridden by Peter Bloomfield down the centre of the course, took the lead from one furlong out. Alan Bailey, the Newmarket trainer, who bought the winner privately for wife, Janice, for £5,000 explained: "Cry For The Crown has had a bit of leg trouble and I will run him in a 'seller' again next time." The winner was backed heavily from 20-1 down to 8-1 and won by five lengths from joint favourites Get Set Lisa. The profit for the racecourse out of this selling race was £3,637. The Newmarket trainer, Luca Cumani's open day held on Sunday which, despite the poor weather, attracted 1,000 visitors, raised approximately £3,700 for charity. The money will be donated to Timeform Charity Day and be divided equally between cancer relief and cancer research. The Compensation Fund for Jockeys, the insurance scheme which provides injured jockeys with temporary benefit, has been renamed to avoid confusion with the racing charity the Injured Jockeys Fund. The fund, which is supported by owners through a surcharge on riding fees, will now be known as the Professional Riders Insurance Scheme.

Ripon results

Going: good to firm 2.30 (1m 20) 1. VERITABLE (G French, 5-1) 2. TAMATOUR (C Brudenell, 10-1) 3. BURNING (G French, 10-1) 4. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 5. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 6. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 7. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 8. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 9. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 10. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 11. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 12. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 13. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 14. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 15. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 16. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 17. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 18. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 19. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 20. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 21. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 22. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 23. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 24. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 25. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 26. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 27. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 28. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 29. MISS RUMOUR (G French, 10-1) 30. 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Today's television and radio programmes

BBC 1
6.00 Cereflex AM
6.50 Breakfast Time with Frank...

CHOICE
The plastic bucket taken down to the local river...

CHOICE
The plastic bucket taken down to the local river...

Stam New York
Pharmaceutical SO, 8.00 News

Wiley and Trevor Laird play the sister and two brothers in the short play by...

TV LONDON
9.25 Thames news headlines followed by World Chess Championship...

CHOICE
The plastic bucket taken down to the local river...

CHOICE
The plastic bucket taken down to the local river...

Stam New York
Pharmaceutical SO, 8.00 News

Wiley and Trevor Laird play the sister and two brothers in the short play by...

BBC 2
6.00 Cereflex
6.25 News summary with subtitles...

CHANNEL 4
2.35 Film: 'Smilin' Through' (1932) starring Norma Shearer...

Radio 4
On long wave, VHF variations at 5.55 Shipping, 6.00 News briefing...

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ENTERTAINMENTS

CONCERTS
ALBERT HALL, 8.00-9.00
THE NORMAL HEART
ANNIE GET YOUR GUN
OPERA & BALLET
THE ULTIMATE EXPERIENCE
THEATRES
THE GAMBLER
ME AND MY GIRL

THE HITS MUSICAL
LA CAPELLE
THE ULTIMATE EXPERIENCE
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ENTERTAINMENTS
CONCERTS
EXHIBITIONS
OPERA & BALLET
THEATRES

SPORT

Botham reaffirms hero's place in Somerset hearts

By Our Sports Staff

WESTON-SUPER-MARE: Worcestershire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, lead Somerset by 109 runs.

Ian Botham playing his first championship innings since his two-month ban from county cricket, returned to his most flamboyant form here yesterday.

Botham, overlooked by the selectors for Thursday's second Test against New Zealand at Trent Bridge, hit a century in only 65 balls as Somerset declared at 286 for four in 73.4 overs.

The England all-rounder, who was suspended by the Test and County Cricket Board for his drug-taking revelations in a Sunday newspaper, had seven sixes and 10 fours in his 64-minute innings.

When Peter Roebuck, the Somerset captain, declared, Botham had scored 104 out of 123 in 18 overs during an unbroken fifth-wicket stand with Nigel Felton, who finished with 52 not out.

Botham, who has missed all this summer's Tests because of his suspension, which ended last Friday, came in when Somerset were 163 for four. He soon lifted Patel over mid-wicket and mid-off for two boundaries in one over.

Botham then accelerated, sweeping and driving Patel for two sixes in one over, one landing on the roof of the press box.

He took 18 in one over from Radford, a straight drive and a hook going for sixes, and reached 50 in 37 balls with four sixes and three fours.

Soon afterwards, Felton reached his fifty in 124 balls with a six and four fours.

Worcestershire tried to slow Botham's run-scoring by placing seven men on the bound-

ary, but this did not hamper him. He reached his century and then hit the next ball for four before Roebuck declared.

Earlier Roebuck, himself had made 63, including a straight drive for six off Patel, before being caught at extra cover.

Worcestershire were 16 for nought in their second innings when rain stopped play.

There is no denying who is still the hero in Somerset hearts (Alan Gibson writes). It was a fine morning at Weston, giving way to a cloudy after-

noon, and a rainy evening. Worcestershire declared at the impressive Saturday total of 379 for four. Somerset progressed, during the morning, fairly adequately against them.

Rose was caught at square-leg, mis-hitting a ball off Radford. Harden, never looking happy, edged a ball to the wicketkeeper, Roebuck was the usual placid anchorman. Richards played a series of beautiful strokes without

ever quite suggesting permanency. Felton settled in and played competently.

But it was none of these the large crowd had come to see, not even Richards, currently the greatest batsman in the world. They had come to see Botham score a century, and when he came in, at No 6, he duly obliged them. It was not, perhaps, technically, one of his better innings: some bangs, and some swishes and some bits of luck comprised most of it. But it spoke volumes for the spirit of the man, and made one feel that, whatever his personal faults, we should be a poorer side in Australia were we to go without him. His eye seemed as sure, and his confidence as supreme, as ever in the past.

Roebuck declared, still well behind, once Botham had reached his hundred, in a laudable attempt to make a game of it. But soon afterwards it rained, and then rained again, more heavily. So it may be difficult to achieve a positive result. Never mind. Somerset men here this day will be telling their grandchildren, with accounts lumbered with erroneous detail, of the Great Ian's return after those London blighters had endeavoured to do him down.

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Waving, not drowning: Fredric Alapetite at home in the foam of the Wisconsin River, where he and his French confreres caused a lot of turbulence by paddling off with three of the four kayak races in the Mid-America slalom series

AMERICAN FOOTBALL Bears hug fresh converts to faith

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ATHLETICS A family feast to follow the fast

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent

The match between the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth, sponsored by Kodak at Gateshead tonight, with its non-stop programme of events crammed into just over three hours, will seem like a feast after the fasting of Edinburgh.

The presence of a dozen top athletes from boycotting nations adds the notion of a family reunion. But without Cram, Coe, Ovett and Tessa Sanderson - who has dropped out of an instant return feud with Fatima Whitbread - it will be a little like the plum pudding without the silver sixpence.

At least, there is a prodigal son seeking a way back into the fold: Allan Wells is running in the 100 metres for the Commonwealth. The former Commonwealth double sprint champion was originally selected by Scotland for Edinburgh but was dropped after consistently missing opportunities to prove his fitness.

Wells endured the Games from a seat in the stand and said: "It was terrible having to watch the damn thing. It's up to me now to try to pick up the pieces." Wells is seeking a place in Britain's European team for Stuttgart later this month.

He could not have a harder trial, for he partners the Commonwealth champion, Ben Johnson, the fastest man in the world this year, and Johnson's Canadian colleague, Desai Williams, against the United Kingdom trio of Elliott Bunney, the young pretender to Wells's Scottish crown, Lincoln Asquith and Clarence Callender.

Miss Whitbread has taken the only sensible approach to the rest of her career after what was evidently a cataclysmic defeat by Miss Sanderson last Thursday. Miss Whitbread's soul-searching in front of opponents, spectators and television millions seems to have purged her. She was talking animatedly yesterday of the motivation to do better in the European championships.

"It's a closed book now," she said. "I can't harp on the past, otherwise I'd never progress in the future. I'm only 23 and I've a long time ahead of me in the sport. I feel very confident about the European."

Zola Budd returns to the UK team and is partnered by Scotland's only gold medalist.

GOLF Schoolgirl finds herself the favourite

By John Hennessy

Susan Shapcott, of Knowle, Bristol, stands in the unusual position for a 16 year-old golfer, of being favourite for the English Women's stroke-play championship, sponsored by National Westminster Bank, at Broadstone this week.

This is partly because of the absence in the United States of Jill Thornhill and Patricia Johnson, two of our Curtis Cup heroines, but substantially on her own merits. She beat Miss Johnson in the English match-play semi-final at Prince's and was overhauled by a determined Mrs Thornhill in the final after winning three of the first four holes.

Since then she has played a leading part in England's victory in the European junior championship, winning all six points available to her; won the Bristol and District Alliance from a field including Karen Davies, another of our successful Curtis Cup team, and Susan Moorcraft, an English international; won the South West Girls' championship; and, more importantly, won the English Girls' championship at Huddersfield last week.

Huddersfield was not an unqualified march of triumph, since she finished several strokes back in the qualifying competition and lost the first four holes in the first round of the match-play to Wendy Day, of Suffolk. All that, however, was put behind her when she overhauled Nicola Way, sister of the Ryder Cup player, by 7 and 6.

When the team for Stuttgart are chosen tomorrow morning. For example, Phil Beattie, of Northern Ireland, has to run in the Commonwealth team tonight in the 400 metres hurdles because Robertson, Holtom and Oakes, of England, were chosen before Beattie beat them to the Commonwealth title.

This, and the omission of Janet Boyle, who won the high jump bronze medal, caused much anger in the Northern Ireland camp. But that can be placated if the pair compete reasonably tonight and get selected for Stuttgart.

Sebastian Coe, who had to withdraw from the Commonwealth Games because of illness, has pulled out of the IAC meeting at Crystal Palace on Friday. He may resume light training in the next few days.

Victory for Kite Oak Brook (Renter) - The American, Tom Kite, birdied the first extra hole to win the \$500,000 Western Open tournament on Sunday in a play-off against the South African Nick Price and David Frost, and his compatriot Fred Couples. Kite played the finest golf of the day to record a four-under par 68 and a two-under par 286 total.

She was unable to take part in the British championship at West Sussex in June because of O level examinations (eight of them) and thereby forfeited any chance of gaining a place in the Curtis Cup team. Even as it was, the selectors felt so convinced of her qualities that she was made first reserve.

But it would be unfair both to Miss Shapcott and to other worthy challengers to take a blinkered look at the tournament. Three other members of the England team, Pat Smillie and Clare Hall along with Miss Moorcraft, will hope to have a say in it and there are others lurking in the field who could well pull off a surprise, notably Janet Collingham, a former British stroke-play champion. They might be encouraged by the thought that after the Curtis Cup anything is possible in golf.

The tournament this year is conducted on five levels, since a senior championship for the over 50s has been introduced. There are nine contestants, including Prue Riddiford, who still plays off four at the age of 62.

A sorry tale of a team in turmoil

From Michael Coleman Montecatini Terme

The world of modern pentathlon, assembled here in this Tuscany spa resort for the annual world championships, has found itself these last few days a spectator to the sad theatre of a United States team struggling to come to terms with their own composition.

While the billing should be Masala versus Starostin versus Mizser, the iron men of Italy, the Soviet Union and Hungary respectively, an American side-show has moved to centre stage.

In the dining room of the Hotel Florida last night there were, dotted around at different tables, seven men all with claims to a place on the three-man team. Two had just hurried in from Texas expecting to take part on the strength of a legal order granted in their favour in Houston. On arrival they learnt the ruling had been overturned by a Federal judge in Washington. An appeal to the UIPMB, the sport's governing authority here, was planned forthwith.

Needless to say the UIPMB is viewing the legal wrangle with dismay. They are already at full stretch in attempting to get these three title contests - the first time they have been staged together - for senior and junior men and women, successfully launched tomorrow at the three surrounding cities of Florence, Lucca and Pescia.

An internecine squabble

The sport, still under a drugs cloud it has yet to shake off, can ill afford the internecine American squabble.

To recap: three athletes, Blair Driggs, Bob Stull and Mike Costigan, first, second and seventh respectively in the United States championships, were found to have taken the recently prescribed drug guthathimide. The three faced a six-month suspension, but claimed they were unaware the drug had been put on the banned list. Because of this their governing body imposed minimum penalties and, together with two other athletes, John Scott and Mike Burley, they were sent to Moscow for the Goodwill Games.

What had been overlooked, however, was the power vested in American sportsmen to challenge not only their associations in the courts, but their fellow sportsmen. Consequently, two colleagues, Laszlo Beres and Harry Cain, third and sixth at the nationals, appealed against the leniency of the penalties, feeling, no doubt, they were worthy of places in the national squad.

Cain's mother happens to be a lawyer, and just before the party left for Moscow she filed a grievance with the United States Olympic Committee's athletes' advisory council, saying that Messrs Driggs and Co. were not worthy of representing the United States in Moscow on Italy. As a result an unsuccessful attempt was made at the airport to serve an injunction on the departing team.

Running short of time Back in Houston, meanwhile, the determined Beres and Cain lodged an appeal with a Texas arbitrator who, despite their absence, found against the "defendants", ordered a six-month suspension and told the association to put Beres and Cain on the world team instead.

Time was running short. Peadar, the new national coach, and his team of hopefuls were already en route to Italy, unaware of this latest decision. Meanwhile, to guard against any restraining order being placed on them, Beres and Cain travelled to Italy using an indirect route. They arrived in Montecatini expecting to find that the US team leader, Danny Steinmann, had already told Peadar's men to go straight home.

They had been outwitted, however, by the speed of the American legal system. Attorneys acting for Driggs and Stull had already been granted, and served, a 10-day restraining order on the US association. That means that the suspension will not be imposed, if at all, until after these championships have been concluded. As it stands, therefore, the team which will march behind the Stars and Stripes in tomorrow's opening ceremony will consist of Scott, Burley, Stull, Driggs (as reserve) with Messrs Beres, Cain and Costigan in the spectator stands. But who knows?

GREAT BRITAIN: Senior men: R. Phillips, D. Mahony, P. Hart, R. Bannister, G. Mitchell, J. Jones, B. J. Lewis, K. Gifford, G. Whyte, Reserve: P. Chaffey, M. W. Norman, T. Purton, L. Bell, Reserve: M. Farnham.

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YACHTING Bottomley is main choice for Britain By Barry Pickthall Robert Bottomley's Deccol Car Carr headed the selectors choice for Britain's three-quarter ton cup team when the Royal Ocean Racing Club announced the 10 boats yesterday to compete in the world championship, starting in Torbay on August 15. Bottomley's Rob Humphrey's design, a development of Jade, last year's one ton cup winner, was the convincing winner of both offshore races during the three weekend trials, and having also performed well in the six inshore races, her crew, which include David Howlett, the Olympic helmsman and David Robinson must start as firm favourite to win the series. Another promising entry is Graham Walker's Andrieu-designed Indulgence, which was selected despite its failure to appear in the two offshore races. Indulgence was being remeasured yesterday after 80lbs was taken out of the keel last weekend to reduce the yacht's rating down to the 24.5 three-quarter ton limit. If her crew, which include Eddie Warden-Owen, from the British Americas Cup team, can display the winning form in four of the inshore trials, they too must stand a good chance. Ranged against them in the championship are five entries from France, three from Italy, two each from Denmark, West Germany; and the Netherlands, and single entries from Belgium, Norway, South Africa, and Sweden. TSB&E Approver: J. Stator; Sponsor: Bannister; Edwards; Deccol Car Carr (R. Bottomley); Indulgence (G. Walker); Juno (M. Pascoe); Lion (A. Carrington); Scario (L. H. Firth); Shantel (S. Arnold); Smiley Bear (P. Curren); Wings of Cowley (RAF Sailing Association).

Delayed action Alex Blanchard, of the Netherlands, the European light-heavyweight boxing champion, will now defend his title against Ralf Rocchigiani, of West Germany, on October 3 - a week later than originally scheduled. The bout will take place in the West Berlin, the home city of the challenger, with Blanchard receiving a purse of around £10,000 together with a fee from television rights. Rocchigiani's purse has yet to be finalized. New caps Andrew Silver (Arena Essex) and Paul Thorp (Stoke), the promising young National League speedway riders, have been selected for the England squad for the third international against the United States, at Ipswich on Thursday. The other two internationals are at Sheffield, on Sunday, and at Oxford three days later. Selected for the Sheffield match are two local riders, Peter Carr and Neil Collins.

SPORT IN BRIEF Close call Jean Valls, a Commonwealth Games bronze medalist, was brought back to earth yesterday in the English women's bowling championship at Leamington Spa. Together with her international colleague, Chris Wessier, she was beaten in a game with an Oxford four which was skipped by Irene Molyneux, another international. After 21 ends the scores were level at 18-all, but with the Surrey side holding shot on a replayed end, Molyneux ran the jack and her last bowl into the ditch for victory. Pulling out Richard Gough, the Dundee United defender, has asked to be placed on the transfer list. The subject of an enquiry from Tottenham Hotspur, the Scotland international, valued at around £700,000, made his request following talks with Jim McLean, the club manager. McLean said: "It will be considered at our board meeting on Friday. It was not totally unexpected." On the climb Greg Turner, who won the Scandinavian Open at Ullna, Sweden, at the weekend by beating Craig Stadler, of the United States, in a sudden-death play-off, has jumped 27 places in the PGA European tour golf rankings. In his first season on the circuit, the 23-year-old brother of former New Zealand Test captain Glen S 19th in the Epson Order of Merit with prize money totalling £40,019. Gough: transfer request

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